



**LOUISIANA**  
POWER & LIGHT

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September 20, 1982

L. V. MAURIN  
Vice President  
Nuclear Operations

W3I82-0036  
Q-3-A35.07.62

Mr. John T. Collins, Regional Administrator, Region IV  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 1000  
Arlington, Texas 76012



SUBJECT: Waterford SES Unit No. 3  
Docket No. 50-382  
Significant Construction Deficiency Report No. 62  
"Undersize Welds on 1/2" Schedule 160 Pipe"  
First Interim Report

REFERENCE: Telecon - R. Bennett (LP&L) to S. Schum (NRC) on August 20, 1982

Dear Mr. Collins:

In accordance with the requirements of 10CFR50.55(e), we are hereby providing two copies of the interim report on Significant Construction Deficiency No. 62 "Undersize Welds on 1/2" Schedule 160 Pipe".

Very truly yours,

L. V. Maurin

LVM/MAL:keh

- cc: 1) Director  
Office of Inspection & Enforcement  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20555
- 2) Director  
Office of Management  
Information and Program Control  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20555

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INTERIM STATUS REPORT  
SIGNIFICANT CONSTRUCTION DEFICIENCY NO. 62  
"UNDERSIZE WELD ON ½" SCHEDULE 160 PIPE"

INTRODUCTION

This report is submitted pursuant to 10CFR50.55(e). It describes a problem with inspection and acceptance of undersize field welds in ½" stainless steel sampling lines being installed at the Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit No. 3 at Taft, La. This problem is considered reportable under the requirements of 10CFR50.55(e). To the best of our knowledge, this problem has not been identified to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission pursuant to 10CFR21.

DESCRIPTION

Based on a recommendation from LP&L Construction Q. A. that the Mercury Co. Quality Control reinspect their socket welds on sampling lines using the acceptance criteria for ½" stainless steel, schedule 160 piping, the Mercury Co. Q. C. discovered that many socket welds were undersized. These welds had been accepted by Mercury Co. Quality Control based on the acceptance criteria for ½" stainless steel .065 wall tubing. The Mercury Co. Q. C. inspectors, therefore, had originally used the criteria for 1/8" welds instead of 1/4" welds. Two undersized welds on sampling lines were found in the reactor coolant system; eight in the Steam Generator Blowdown System sampling lines, and thirty in the pressurizer and quench tank sampling lines.

SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

This condition represents a breakdown in the Mercury Co. Quality Assurance program in that undersized welds previously inspected and accepted could have gone undetected. Some of the welds in question were made on safety class 2 piping which make up part of the reactor coolant pressure boundary. Had the condition remained uncorrected, the welds could have failed and adversely affected the safety of the plant.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

Mercury Company will build up deficient welds and inspect the socket welds on ½" stainless steel schedule 160 piping to ensure welds are in accordance with the correct acceptance criteria. Welds not in compliance with the correct acceptance criteria will be built up/repared as necessary. This corrective action, with associated NDE inspection, will be completed by December 22, 1982 and a final report will be submitted by January 12, 1983. The Mercury Company will upgrade their Quality Control Welding Inspection Program as necessary to preclude recurrence.

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