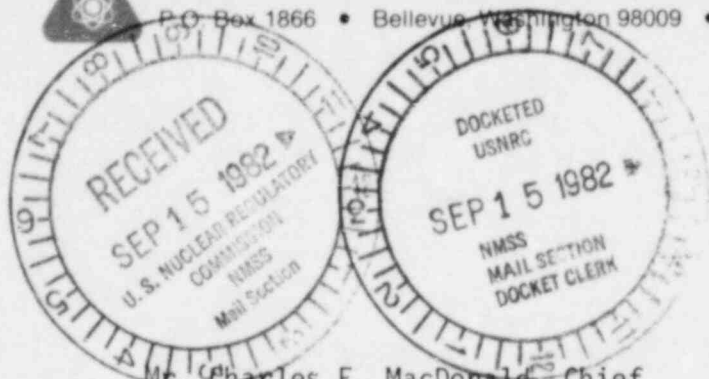


CHEM—NUCLEAR SYSTEMS INC.

P.O. Box 1866 • Bellevue, Washington 98009 • (206) 827-0711

August 25, 1982



Mr. Charles E. MacDonald, Chief
 Transportation Certification Branch
 Fuel Cycle & Material Safety Division
 U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
 Washington, D. C. 20555

Re: FCTC:RHO 71-6601

Dear Mr. MacDonald:

We are responding to your letter of July 27, 1982 as to the cause of defects found in the cask lid bolts of the CNS 8-120 shipping cask used by Rochester Gas & Electric Corporation.

Preliminary investigations have determined the defects to be caused during bolt manufacture. Actions being taken to evaluate and correct this condition are discussed in the following paragraphs.

Immediate corrective action has been to test the lid bolts in all 8-120 casks and replace those with defects using new, pre-use tested bolts.

Other actions currently underway to evaluate this condition are:

- (1) Destructive and non-destructive testing on a series of new and used 8-120 lid bolts.
- (2) Magnetic particle or liquid penetrant examination of all lid bolts on in-service 8-120 casks at a frequency of every six round trips (12 lid torquings) or every six months, whichever occurs first. This practice will continue at this frequency until the problem has been thoroughly evaluated.
- (3) A report of our finding will be forwarded to your office within twelve months of this date.

FEE EXEMPT

Info only
 21212

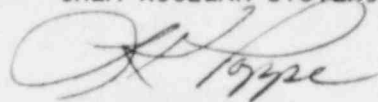
Mr. Charles E. MacDonald
August 25, 1982
Page 2

The testing outlined above will provide an evaluation of both the structural effects of the defects on the bolts and the production or propagation of defects during use of the bolts.

If you require further information with regard to our proposed actions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

CHEM-NUCLEAR SYSTEMS, INC.



Leslie K. Poppe
Corporate Health Physicist

LKP:slj