

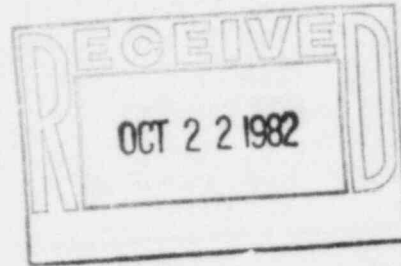


KANSAS GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

GLENN L. KOESTER
VICE PRESIDENT - NUCLEAR

October 20, 1982

Mr. W.C. Seidle, Chief
Reactor Projects Branch 2
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission,
Region IV
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 1000
Arlington, Texas 76011



KMLNRC 82-247
Re: Docket No. STN 50-482
Ref: Letter KMLNRC 82-234 dated 8/11/82 from
GLKoester, KG&E, to WCSeidle, NRC
Subj: Interim Potential 10CFR50.55(e) Report -
Compromised Welding Inspector Examination

Dear Mr. Seidle:

This letter provides an interim report on the investigation and evaluation of the compromised Level II Welding Inspector Examination. This problem was first reported to Region IV of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission as a potential 10CFR50.55(e) item on July 12, 1982. An interim status report was later submitted in the Reference.

The Reference stated that an attempt would be made to locate and retest the 14 inspectors who had left the project. This effort has proven to be impractical and it was further determined that reinspection of their work would provide a more accurate assessment of whether or not they had performed adequate inspections. Therefore, a sample of the welds accepted by the 14 inspectors who have left the project will be reinspected, as well as samples of welds accepted by the three inspectors who failed the retest.

Of the three inspectors who failed the retest, two have successfully completed all remedial actions and have been re-certified. The third inspector voluntarily terminated his employment prior to completing the remedial actions. As stated above, samples of welds accepted by these three inspectors will be reinspected to determine whether or not adequate inspections were made.

As of this date, a total of 354 welds have been reinspected, with 346 being totally acceptable for a 97.7% acceptance rate. Only eight welds failed to meet all of the acceptance criteria and were, therefore, rejected. The rejections were for very minor deviations and the actual integrity of the welds was not in question. It should be noted that the reinspections are

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very conservative, especially in areas that rely upon the judgement of the inspector. All rejected welds are being documented on Nonconformance Reports. The 354 reinspected welds represent samples of welds inspected by 10 of the 17 inspectors in question.

The reinspections will continue until an adequate sample has been reinspected for each of the 17 inspectors in question. The status of this evaluation will be reported on or before February 2, 1983. In the interim, please direct any questions concerning this subject to me or to Mr. Otto Maynard of my staff.

Yours very truly,

Glen L Kaestle

GLK:bb

cc: Mr. Thomas Vandell/ Mr. Scott Schum