

ORGANIZATION: NATIONAL TECHNICAL SYSTEMS
SAUGUS, CALIFORNIA

REPORT NO.:	99900907/82-02	INSPECTION DATE(S)	6/21-22/82	INSPECTION ON-SITE HOURS:	24
CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS: National Technical Systems ATTN: Arthur Edelstein Executive Vice President 26525 Golden Valley Road Saugus, CA 91350					
ORGANIZATIONAL CONTACT: Mr. Arthur Edelstein TELEPHONE NUMBER: (805) 251-6622					
PRINCIPAL PRODUCT: Testing Services.					
NUCLEAR INDUSTRY ACTIVITY: The National Technical Systems (NTS) test laboratories, located at Saugus, California, currently use 15-22% of its manpower for equipment qualification testing of safety-related equipment for the commercial nuclear power industry.					
ASSIGNED INSPECTOR:	<u>J. R. Agee</u> J. R. Agee, Equipment Qualification Section (EQS)			<u>9/23/82</u> Date	
OTHER INSPECTOR(S):	A. L. Smith, EQS H. S. Phillips, EQS				
APPROVED BY:	<u>H. S. Phillips</u> H. S. Phillips, Chief, EQS			<u>9-23-82</u> Date	
INSPECTION BASES AND SCOPE:					
A. <u>BASES:</u> 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix B.					
B. <u>SCOPE:</u> The purpose of this inspection was to: (1) conduct a management meeting to explain the Region IV Equipment Qualification Inspection program and obtain information about the NTS organization; (2) perform a followup inspection relative to an allegation made against an NTS employee; and (3) witness the initial testing of the Borg Warner modulating electro-hydraulic valve operator.					
PLANT SITE APPLICABILITY:					
NTS is testing the Borg Warner modulating electro-hydraulic valve operator for generic applications in the nuclear power industry with the first target nuclear plant being Waterford 3.					

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DESIGNATED BY: Chauve Joubert
Certified By

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A. VIOLATIONS:
None

B. NONCONFORMANCES:
None

C. UNRESOLVED ITEMS:
None

D. OTHER FINDINGS OR COMMENTS:

1. Initial Management Meeting: The accompanying Region IV supervisor made a presentation to NTS management to describe and explain the Region IV Equipment Qualification Inspection Program. The presentation covered NRC and Region IV organizations, bases for inspection, history of the EQ program, and status of proposed rules being developed and in the adoption process. NRC fact sheets, organization charts, and other handouts were provided to NTS management.

Following the NRC presentation, NTS management made a presentation describing NTS organizational structure, facility locations, test capability, and operations. In addition to the NTS Saugus test facility, other NTS facilities in the Los Angeles area can provide specialty work; for example, design, machining, and fabrication of test fixtures and auxiliaries. NTS stated that they have made numerous commitments to conduct environmental qualification tests of safety-related equipment which may be exposed to a harsh environment.

The NRC inspectors toured the test facility to determine the extent of testing in progress and test capability.

2. Followup Inspection Regarding An Allegation

a. Background

On February 5, 1982, the Public Affairs Office, Region V received an anonymous telephone call from an individual who identified himself as a university professor. He stated that a fellow faculty member of California State Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo, California, had worked at NTS performing safety-related work involved with the nuclear industry. The caller then made an allegation relative to the work performed by his fellow faculty member.

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The allegor stated that his fellow worker had been involved with seismic qualification testing of nuclear components and questioned the quality of his work because the faculty considered him "incredibly incompetent, lazy, a big talker, and a joke."

b. Findings

During this inspection, the NRC inspector interviewed NTS Management concerning the employee. Management stated the employee had a satisfactory performance record. He was initially employed as a technical writer for the compilation of equipment specifications and analyses. He received assignments and performed functions in the analysis of equipment, some of which concerned nuclear safety-related equipment. The work performed did not represent a final autonomous technical position by the employee. His work was reviewed and approved by his manager, a professional engineer. He was reportedly a conscientious employee. The quality of his work was acceptable and seldom needed correction.

Subsequent to the NRC receipt of the allegation, the employee left the company with a good work record. His departure was not due to professional incompetence, but due to lack of workload for his area of expertise.

The NRC inspector reviewed NTS files and selected two analyses performed by the individual alleged to be incompetent.

These analyses were based on test criteria of NUREG 0588 and IEEE Standards 323-1974 and 344-1975, test criteria for Class 1E electrical devices for nuclear power electrical stations. The NRC inspector considered the documents to be adequate for use in the qualification of Class 1E safety-related equipment.

The allegation was not substantiated. The interview with management and review of records revealed satisfactory performance by the former employee.

3. Equipment Qualification Testing Inspection: This portion of the inspection was to: (1) review the final test procedure and the acceptance test plan; (2) witness the initial functional testing of the valve actuator and development of the test baseline data; and (3) witness the initial stage of the thermal aging test.

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<p>The NRC inspector initiated inspection in the three areas described above; however, Borg Warner, the test sponsor, decided to reverify the test plan and procedures which required additional contract negotiations. NRC evaluation and inspection of the test plan and subsequent test phases will be completed when NTS receives an approved test plan.</p>		

