



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION III
799 ROOSEVELT ROAD
GLEN ELLYN, ILLINOIS 60137

DEC 0 1 1982

W/enc

MEMORANDUM FOR: D. Eisenhut, Director, Division of Licensing, NRR
FROM: R. F. Warnick, Acting Director, Office of Special Cases
SUBJECT: RECOMMENDATION FOR NOTIFICATION OF LICENSING BOARD

Enclosed is a Preliminary Notification regarding the adequacy of welder qualifications and weld procedures associated with heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) installation activities at the Consumers Power Company Midland Site.

Region III has reviewed this information and perceives the issues identified in the enclosure to be material and relevant to the Midland OM/OL proceedings. We recommend that the Midland Licensing Board be notified.

If you have any questions or desire further information regarding this matter, please call me.

RFWarnick

R. F. Warnick, Acting Director
Office of Special Cases

Enclosure: As stated

cc w/encl:
A. B. Davis
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PDR ADOCK 05000329
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This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by the staff on this date.

Facility: Consumers Power Company
Midland Nuclear Power Plant
Units 1 and 2
Docket Nos. 50-329
50-330
Midland, MI 48640

Licensee Emergency Classification:
____ Notification of Unusual Event
____ Alert
____ Site Area Emergency
____ General Emergency
xx Not Applicable

Subject: INADEQUATE QUALITY ASSURANCE FOR HVAC WELDER CERTIFICATION AND PROCEDURE QUALIFICATION

All safety-related welding on the heating, ventilating and air conditioning (HVAC) was stopped November 30, 1972, after it was determined by the licensee that the quality assurance program for welder certification and procedure qualification was inadequate.

A licensee QA audit of Photon Testing, Inc., which performed testing of weld samples used in certifying welders and welding procedures, determined that the contractor did not have an adequate quality assurance program. Photon Testing has subsequently been removed by the licensee from the list of approved Midland vendors.

As a result of the audit findings, the HVAC contractor, Zack Company, has discontinued all welding on safety-related HVAC systems, laying off 151 crafts workers. Zack also discontinued the certification of new welders and withdrew all safety-related weld procedures.

The Photon Testing has performed testing services for HVAC welder and procedure qualifications since 1980.

Region III (Chicago) personnel are on site and will monitor the licensee's program to address the qualification of the Zack welders and procedures and to assess the quality of the completed HVAC welding work.

There has been local news media interest in the quality assurance problems and resulting layoffs. Region III will continue to respond to news inquiries.

The State of Michigan will be notified.

The licensee reported the quality assurance inadequacies and HVAC worker layoffs as a potential 50.55e construction deficiency to Region III personnel at the site at 2 p.m., (EST), December 1, 1982. This information is current as of that time.

Contact: *RM* R. Gardner 384-2524 *RJA* W. Shafer 384-2656 *RJA* R. Warnick 384-2599

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