



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I
631 PARK AVENUE
KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19406

JUL 16 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: Harold W. Denton, Director, NRR
FROM: Ronald C. Haynes, Regional Administrator, RI
SUBJECT: ALLEGATION PERTAINING TO SMALL BORE PIPING AT
SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION (SSES)

This memorandum is a follow-up to the telephone conversation between you and Messrs. J. M. Allan and S. D. Ebnetter of Region I on July 14, 1982, in which the status of the Region I investigation of allegations pertaining to small bore piping at SSES was discussed. The Region I technical staff is investigating the allegation that small bore piping analysis did not consider nozzle loads and that socket weld stress intensification factors (sif) were ignored.

Preliminary inspection findings indicate that the concerns expressed in the May 3, 1982 letter to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission from an anonymous Bechtel Employee may be valid. Based on discussions with the Bechtel Deputy Group Supervisor of Plant Design, allowable nozzle loads on equipment were not always provided by the equipment manufacturer. In those instances, there was no numerical comparison of connecting-pipe stress versus nozzle allowable load. Bechtel's position is that in these cases the first pipe hanger/support was placed "conservatively".

Bechtel has not provided any analysis or justification of why stress intensification factors for sockolets or weldolets were not considered in the stress analysis of small bore piping which was analyzed at the job site. Their position is that the sockolets and weldolets used are always less flexible than the pipe to which they are attached, and therefore need not be considered separately.

Region I is continuing the investigation. We do not feel the situation warrants a delay in the issuance of the operating license. Our position is that the licensee should a) review all small bore pipe systems to determine which systems did not consider nozzle loads, b) prioritize the systems in terms of safety related systems and those which will ultimately contain radioactive fluids, c) re-analyze the prioritized systems and make any hanger/support changes required on priority systems prior to criticality and d) re-analyze and change low priority systems prior to attaining 5% power level.

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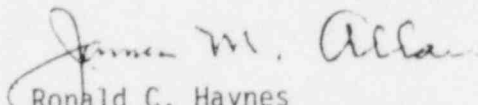
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Harold Denton

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In the telephone discussion of July 14, 1982, you offered the assistance of NRR-MEB if Region I needed additional expertise. We will need additional help and will pursue this through normal channels. If you require any additional information, contact Mr. S. D. Ebnetter, extension 488-1283.


Ronald C. Haynes
for Regional Administrator

cc: *
R. C. DeYoung, Director, IE