



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

JUL 19 1984

Docket Nos.: 50-445  
and 50-446

Mr. M. D. Spence  
President  
Texas Utilities Generating Company  
400 N. Olive Street  
Lock Box 81  
Dallas, Texas 75201

Dear Mr. Spence:

Subject: Environmental Qualification of BIW Cable Systems Inc.  
Silicone Insulated Cable at Comanche Peak Steam Electric  
Station (Units 1 and 2)

An inspection of the BIW Cable Systems, Inc. (BIW) equipment qualification testing program was conducted by NRC Region IV and Sandia National Laboratory (SNL) representatives during the period of August 29 - September 2, 1983, as a part of the NRC inspection program for equipment qualification testing organizations. During this inspection, it was determined that the documentation used by BIW to show environmental qualification of its silicone insulated cable was inadequate.

The NRC inspection report states, in pertinent part that "BIW has not performed qualification testing of its silicone products. Rather, the documentation references a Franklin Research Center Qualification report (F-C4497-4) for General Electric silicone cables, and argues that its silicone product is similar because the same silicone material is used in both cables. Manufacturing process similarities and differences between the two companies (BIW and GE) was never discussed...the referenced test included four test specimens, two of which failed acceptance criteria. These failures were not reconciled."

In view of the above inspection finding, the staff requires that Texas Utilities review the qualification documentation submitted to Gibbs and Hill by BIW for the silicone insulated cable, and verify whether the qualifications documentation, including justification for similarity, is adequate for Comanche Peak. In addition, Texas Utilities should address all anomalies that occurred during testing, and any pertinent information missing from the qualification file. The results of this review should be submitted to the staff for review and approval, and added to the list of items to be resolved prior to Unit 1 fuel load, and identified as Item (7) under the heading New Issues Raised by NRC (reference my letter to R. J. Gary dated January 24, 1984).

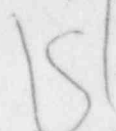
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JUL 19 1984

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Please advise John Stefano of my staff when we may expect to receive your response, within 5 days after receipt of this letter. Mr. Stefano informed your staff that this letter was being submitted on July 18, 1984.

Sincerely,



B. J. Youngblood, Chief  
Licensing Branch No. 1  
Division of Licensing

cc: See next page

CONCURRENCES:

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7/19/84

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BJYoungblood

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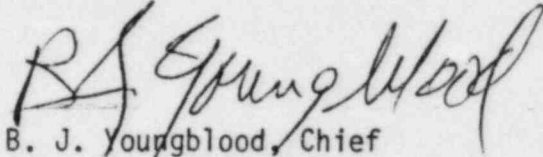
~~Docket File~~

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-2-

Please advise John Stefano of my staff when we may expect to receive your response, within 5 days after receipt of this letter. Mr. Stefano informed your staff that this letter was being submitted on July 18, 1984.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "B. J. Youngblood". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "B".

B. J. Youngblood, Chief  
Licensing Branch No. 1  
Division of Licensing

cc: See next page

COMANCHE PEAK

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