



UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20545

APR 24 1973

Babcock & Wilcox Company
ATTN: J. F. Mallay
Manager, Licensing
P. O. Box 1260
Lynchburg, Virginia 24505

Gentlemen:

This will acknowledge receipt of the additional copies of your report number BAW-1402 dated January 1973, together with copies of your supplemental report dated February 28, 1973, responding to our letter dated February 7, 1973. We have reviewed these reports and concur that the comparison of the chemistry of the weld materials with unknown mechanical properties, with known mechanical properties of materials with similar chemistry, provides reasonable assurance that the strengths and impact toughness will be within acceptable tolerances under similar conditions. This appears to be further supported by the results of the hardness test you performed on a test weld and reported by telephone on April 11, 1973.

On this basis we believe that the steam generators discussed in your report are acceptable for service. We note, however, that these units do not fully conform to the technical requirements of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code Edition and Addenda to which the vessels were designed and constructed. We understand that you intend to pursue this matter further with the cognizant Code authorities.

Your corrective action to prevent recurrence of this or similar nonconformances will be reviewed during our continuing inspection program.

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~~Enclosure 3.~~

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Your cooperation concerning this matter is appreciated.

Yours truly,

Original signed by
J. G. Keppeler



K. H. Engelken
Assistant Director for
Construction & Operations
Directorate of Regulatory
Operations