PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

IP (Greater)

August 17, 1970

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Docket No. 50 27:

Lie. CPPR. 39

Mr. R. W. Smith, Director Division of Compliance, Region V U. S. Atomic Energy Commission 2111 Bancroft Way Berkeley, California 94704

Re: Construction Permit CPPR-39

Dear Mr. Smith:

This is in reply to your letter dated July 21, 1970 regarding an apparent deficiency in preparation of welds for radiography during fabrication of the containment structure liner at our Diablo Canyon site.

On June 23, 1970 your audit term indicated to P G and E representatives that weld reinforcement appeared to be in excess of that specified in Paragraph UW-51, Section VIII, ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code. P G and E, in conjunction with its contractors, immediately initiated an investigation to determine the facts in this matter. The investigation included detailed examination of the full length of both inside and outside welds of the second, third, and fourth horizontal seams, and the vertical seams on rings one, two, three, and four. The examination revealed intermittent lengths of weld having excessive reinforcement.

The first horizontal seam represented a special situation. At the time of investigation, the inside weld had been covered with a leak chase channel and had been leak tested. P G and E inspectors' reports indicate that the contractor had exercised special care with the inside weld of the first horizontal seam, with grinding in evidence as the work progressed. The outside weld, being completely visible, was fully examined and was found to have an aggregate of approximately 25 feet with excessive reinforcement. To investigate the inside weld covered by the leak chase channel the channel directly opposite these 25 feet was removed. The inside weld thus exposed was found to be all within Code requirements.

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Having thus confirmed P G and E inspectors' reports, we concluded that removal of additional leak chase channel was not warranted.

All seams found to have excessive reinforcement were ground to Code requirements and reradiographed. The results of this work show that all welds are sound and in conformance with the Code.

To prevent recurrence of this type of problem P G and E now requires the contractor to measure the weld reinforcement with a gage when making the required visual inspection. This will assure conformance with Paragraph UW-51 of the Code at weld locations where radiographs are taken and with Paragraph UW-35 at other locations.

Very truly yours,

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