

September 9, 1988

Mr. Howard F. Dobel
Second Vice President
Hartford Steam Boiler Inspection
and Insurance Company
1 State Street
Hartford, Connecticut 06102

FOR PROCESSING

Original document not available to NRC

Certified by Cileen Peyton

Dear Mr. Dobel:

In response to allegations concerning harassment and intimidation of Authorized Nuclear Inspectors at TVA plants, the NRC Office of Investigations conducted an extensive investigation to determine if these allegations were substantiated. The conclusion of the investigation is that four of the nine authorized nuclear inspectors assigned to TVA were either coerced, pressured, harassed, intimidated and/or threatened by their management. This included one inspector who was directed by his management to accept the disposition of a non-conforming condition which did not meet code requirements.

As you know, the NRC depends to a great extent on the inspections of the authorized nuclear inspectors to ensure that activities covered under the scope of the ASME Code are carried out in an appropriate manner. Activities that have the potential to adversely impact those inspection activities such as harassment or intimidation of inspection personnel cannot be tolerated. The NRC is particularly concerned with what specific actions are being taken by HSBII in response to these findings.

Enclosed is a copy of the report of the NRC investigation into the issue at TVA. Portions of the report dealing with personal privacy of individuals have been deleted. After HSBII has reviewed the report, senior managers from HSBII are requested to meet with the NRC staff in Washington to review specific HSBII corrective action to prevent recurrence of this issue. Mr. Steven Richardson of my staff will be contacting you to schedule this meeting.

In addition, a meeting will be held between the NRC, members of the National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors, and the ASME staff on these issues. You are invited to attend. If you decide to do so, contact Mr. Steven Richardson for scheduling information.

Sincerely,

Original signed by
James G. Partlow

James G. Partlow, Director
Office of Special Projects

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PDR TOPRP EUTVA
C PNU

Enclosure:
Report of Investigation
Case No. 2-85-034S

DISTRIBUTION: (w/o enclosure)

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|-------------|------------|---------------|
| OSP Reading | JTaylor | LChandler |
| TVA Reading | BGrimes | RBosnak |
| JPartlow | EBaker | Central Files |
| SRichardson | JLieberman | NRC PDR |

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*SEE PREVIOUS CONCURRENCE

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| OFC | :OSP:TVA:D | :NRR:DRIS:D | :OE:O | :OSP:D | : | : | : | : |
| NAME | :*SRichardson:am | :*BGrimes | :JLieberman | :JPartlow | : | : | : | : |
| DATE | :8/25/88 | :8/26/88 | :8/31/88 | :9/7/88 | : | : | : | : |

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