



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV  
611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400  
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-8064

January 2, 1998

Central Files  
Docket Files  
T5C3

Mats Tynell, General Manager  
Product Center-Steam Generator Tubing  
AB Sandvik Steel  
SE-811 81 Sandviken  
Sweden

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 99901326/97-01 AND NOTICE OF  
NONCONFORMANCE

Dear Mr. Tynell:

On October 27-31, 1997, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) performed an inspection at the AB Sandvik Steel (ABSS) steam generator tube manufacturing facility. The enclosed report presents the findings of that inspection.

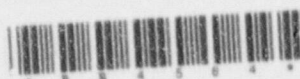
The inspection was conducted to assess: (a) attributes and implementation of the ABSS quality assurance program in the areas of manufacturing process control, control of special processes and material identification and traceability, to ascertain whether they met NRC requirements; and (b) ABSS conformance to customer procurement requirements. In addition, the inspection reviewed the method of compliance with Part 21 of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

Overall, the results of the inspection indicate that you have established appropriate program criteria for control of tube manufacturing and examination activities, with implementation noted generally to be good. During the inspection, the inspectors determined, however, that ABSS did not adequately implement its quality assurance program criteria for control of special processes to comply with NRC and customer requirements. Specifically, ABSS did not fully conform to its defined requirements for thermocouple locations to be used during thermal treatment of South Texas Projects, Unit 1, steam generator tubing. As a result, the specified thermal treatment hold period was commenced without the necessary assurance that the full length of steam generator tubing had reached the prescribed temperature range.

This issue is cited in the enclosed Notice of Nonconformance (NON), and the circumstances surrounding it are described in detail in the enclosed report. You are requested to respond to the nonconformance and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed NON when preparing your response.

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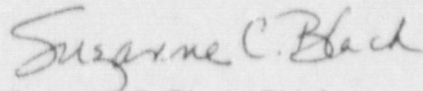


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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be placed in the NRC's Public Document Room.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Suzanne C. Black".

Suzanne C. Black, Chief  
Quality Assurance, Vendor Inspection,  
and Maintenance Branch  
Division of Reactor Controls and Human Factors  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 99901326

Enclosures: 1. Notice of Nonconformance  
2. Inspection Report 99901326/97-01

AB Sandvik Steel

-3-

cc:

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Director, Quality  
STP Nuclear Operating Company  
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Wadsworth, TX 77483

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Manager, Quality Assurance  
Westinghouse Electric Corporation  
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