

B. L. Zech

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37401

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DEC 12 1986

Mr. Gary G. Zech
Director of TVA Projects
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
101 Marietta Street, N.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30323

Dear Mr. Zech:

BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR PLANT - ANONYMOUS ALLEGATION TO NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION (NRC) RESIDENT INSPECTOR CONCERNING SAFE ENDS NOZZLE REPLACEMENT

The following information is being transmitted to you in response to a verbal NRC request by Ken Barr of your office.

General Electric Company (GE) was contracted by TVA to cut and machine the safe ends before TVA personnel perform the nozzle replacements. After the contract was awarded and GE personnel began to arrive onsite, questions were raised concerning the qualifications of the personnel GE was using to perform their work. Managers of the Browns Ferry Modifications Group reviewed the resumes and work histories of the GE personnel, and after reviewing the information, TVA had concerns about the qualifications of the employees because it is a highly technical and specialized operation. In discussions with GE about the matter, GE has assured TVA that 17 seasoned machinists with nuclear experience will be performing the work. Much of the experience these employees received was at the Peach Bottom Nuclear Plant in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. These employees will be supplemented by a group of employees that lack specific nuclear experience but have received "hands on" or specific training at GE's facility in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. In addition, all TVA and GE employees will go through mock-up training at the Browns Ferry site.

GE has satisfied TVA that their personnel have sufficient experience to perform the precision work at the level of quality that TVA specified.

Very truly yours,

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

J. A. Domer

J. A. Domer, Assistant Director
Nuclear Safety and Licensing

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Mr. Gary G. Zech

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cc: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
Attention: Dr. J. Nelson Grace, Regional Administrator
101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 2900
Atlanta, Georgia 30323

Mr. G. E. Gears
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Browns Ferry Project Manager
7920 Norfolk Avenue
Bethesda, Maryland 20814