

February 27, 1989

Docket No. 50-346

Mr. Donald C. Shelton
Vice President - Nuclear
Toledo Edison Company
300 Madison Avenue
Toledo, Ohio 43652

Dear Mr. Shelton:

SUBJECT: EMBRITTLEMENT OF REACTOR VESSEL SUPPORTS

Since April 1988, the NRC staff has been investigating the potential significance of the effects of low-temperature, low-flux embrittlement on the structural integrity of reactor vessel supports. The reviews to date have concluded that this issue does not pose an immediate concern to public safety, but it challenges the margins provided by the defense-in-depth concept. Accordingly, we would like to meet with your representatives (as well as the Combustion Engineering and Westinghouse Owners Group) in mid-March 1989 to discuss embrittlement of reactor vessel supports.

To assist you in your preparation for the meeting, I have enclosed two documents for your review. One is the Oak Ridge National Laboratory Final Draft Report on this issue, and the other is the staff's evaluation. We will be in touch with you in the near future to establish a meeting date.

Sincerely,

original signed by

Gary M. Holahan, Acting Director
Division of Reactor Projects III,
IV, V, and Special Projects
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosures:

1. "Impact of Radiation Embrittlement on Integrity of Pressure Vessel Supports for Two PWR Plants," ORNL/TM-10966, Final Draft, 12/7/88
2. Staff Evaluation of Embrittlement of Reactor Vessel Supports, 1/89

cc: w/enclosures
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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gary M. Holahan".

Gary M. Holahan, Acting Director
Division of Reactor Projects III,
IV, V, and Special Projects
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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