

May 7, 2001

Mr. Robert H. Bryan, Chairman
Westinghouse Owners Group
Tennessee Valley Authority
1101 Market Street - Mail Stop LP4J
Chattanooga, TN 37402

SUBJECT: WELD INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE RISK-INFORMED
PROGRAM AS DESCRIBED IN THE STAFF'S SAFETY EVALUATION FOR
WCAP-14572

Dear Mr. Bryan:

Thank you for your March 8, 2001, letter in which you expressed a concern regarding the weld examination criteria NRC staff was using to evaluate the acceptability of recently submitted risk-informed inservice inspection (RI-ISI) programs using the Westinghouse Owners Group (WOG) methodology. We appreciate your thoughts on this matter, and have carefully reviewed the issues which you presented.

As my staff indicated to you in the telephone discussion on May 3, 2001, we have been evaluating the technical issues involved, and a meeting has been arranged for May 22, 2001, between the industry and the NRC staff to further discuss and resolve the issues discussed in your letter.

We look forward to continuing to work with the industry as we progress through the implementation of RI-ISI programs at various plants.

Sincerely,

Jack Strosnider, Director */ra/*
Division of Engineering
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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