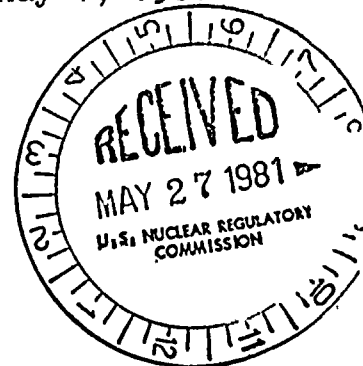


ROCHESTER GAS AND ELECTRIC CORPORATION • 89 EAST AVENUE, ROCHESTER, N.Y. 14549

TELEPHONE
AREA CODE 716 546-2700

Ginna Station
May 1, 1981

Mr. Boyce H. Grier, Director
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Region I
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406



SUBJECT: Smoldering Fire in Ginna Station Containment Vessel
(NUREG 0654, Appendix I, Unusual Event, Fire Lasting
More Than 10 Minutes)

Dear Mr. Grier:

This is to follow up on the one-hour notification made by our Shift Supervisor at approximately 0225 hours on the morning of May 1, 1981, and to close out the above referenced NUREG 0654 Unusual Event.

At 0144 hours, a fire was announced on the operating floor of the containment vessel. The fire watch assigned to monitor modifications to a main steam line seismic support in the containment made the announcement. At 0157 hours the Ginna Control Room was notified by the Fire Brigade Captain that the fire was out.

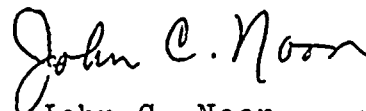
Smoke had been observed coming from a storage box for the reactor vessel head "O" rings located below and adjacent to the modification work area. The box was opened and the fire put out by use of portable extinguishers.

It appears that a grinding spark from the work on the seismic support entered the storage box through an opening in the side and ignited some four inch webbing that holds the "O"-rings in place in the box. The inside of the wooden box was in turn ignited. The outside of the storage box had been protected with a fire-retardant paint, however, the inside of the box had not been protected.

8106010/55

DATE 5-1-81
TO Boyce H. Grier, NRC

Open Flame, Welding and Grinding Permits were cancelled until an investigation of the event had been completed by the Station Fire Protection and Safety Coordinator.



John C. Noon
Assistant Superintendent

JCN:kac

xc: J. E. Maier
L. S. Lang
B. A. Snow
J. C. Bodine
J. E. Straight
C. H. Peck
R. W. Vanderweel
R. P. Zimmerman, NRC Resident Inspector

