

June 25, 1980

Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20555

**Fox Howlett Rebar Coupler - Status**

Dear Mr. Denton:

On February 21, 1980 we inquired into the status of the technical review of our topical report on the above coupler for joining reinforcing steel. This report was accepted for review in March 22, 1978 but because of higher priority work the review was deferred.

May we have a reply to our letter as we continue to receive inquiries regarding NRC acceptance of the coupler especially from people expressing dissatisfaction with the presently approved method.

For your information, the Fox Howlett coupler has been approved by every major code writing agency especially for earthquake applications. Moreover, the manufacturer of the currently NRC approved method has indicated that they are initiating production of a competitive taper threaded coupler that is an exact copy of the Fox Howlett coupler.

Very truly yours

FOX INDUSTRIES

Charles J. Fox

CJF/pk

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