



KANSAS GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

GLENN L. KOESTER
VICE PRESIDENT-OPERATIONS

October 27, 1978

Mr. W.C. Seidle, Chief
Reactor Construction and Engineering
Support Branch
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region IV
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 1000
Arlington, Texas 76011

Subj: STN 50-482/Rpt 78-10
Re: Seidle Letter dated 10/5/78

Dear Mr. Seidle:

Your letter of October 5 requested information related to Inspection Report 78-10 beyond that provided in our letter dated September 15, 1978. As requested, the following additional information is provided:

A. Relative to the failure to follow procedures for the cleaning of the stiffening brackets of the dome sections:

(a) Question. Who made the investigation?

Answer. Chicago Bridge & Iron Welding and Q.A. Superintendent Bill Hiser and Welding Supervisor Al Kindle.

(b) Question. What was the extent of the problem? Were any other sections welded previous to Section 2C?

Answer. Lack of proper cleaning prior to making tack welds. This was a one-day duration problem, caused by the assigning of the man responsible for doing the cleaning to other work. Sections 2 C 1 and 2 A 1 were involved.

(c) Question. What method was used to determine the soundness of the tack welds removed?

Answer. The Welding Supervisor personally removed the tacks by skimming thin layers using an arc air gouge. Tack removing was observed by Welding Q.A. Superintendent Bill Hiser. The only inspection required on the welds is a

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visual for fillet size, check for undercut, proper starts and stops and surface appearance. Approximately twenty (20%) percent of the welds deposited during the day in question were removed with no subsurface defects found. Some surface defects were found which are normally corrected during final cleanup and inspection. (i.e., pinholes undercut).

(d) Question. Was the potential problem of underbead cracking investigated?

Answer. Yes. Again, the welds were removed by the air arc gouging method taking light skimmer cuts. In addition, magnetic particle inspection was performed. No indications were found.

(e) Question. What type of QC/QA coverage will be provided for future CB&I welding operations to avoid further noncompliance in this area?

Answer. Chicago Bridge & Iron's Welding and Q.A. Superintendent and Welding Supervisor were instructed to provide more coverage to prevent re-occurrence of this item.

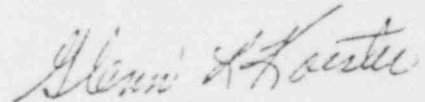
B. Relative to the lack of a procedure for placing drypack mortar:

(a) Question. Have supervisory and QA/QC personnel been apprised of the nature of this item of non-compliance with regard to the need for approved procedures for any activity which affects quality?

Answer. The management was promptly made aware of the deficiencies by prompt distribution of audit findings. Further a memorandum had been issued to supervisory personnel including QA/QC personnel to review the safety-related activities and ensure that written procedures are available to cover the safety-related activities.

Please advise if you need additional information.

Yours very truly,



GLK:bb
cc: JOArterburn
EWCreele
WEHitt
DTMcPhee