

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY
CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE
37401



September 19, 1973

Mr. F. E. Kruesi, Director
Directorate of Regulatory Operations
U.S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, DC 20545

Dear Mr. Kruesi:

This is an interim report concerning inverted control rod absorber tubes for Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant units 2 and 3.

An initial report of the control rod deficiency for units 2 and 3 at the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant was made by L. D. Weber to B. J. Cochran, Principal AEC-DRO Region II Inspector for Browns Ferry units 2 and 3, on August 21, 1973, in compliance with paragraph 50.55(e) of 10 CFR 50.

Thirty-three out of the 185 control rods in unit 1 of the Browns Ferry Plant contained inverted absorber tubes as reported in a letter from J. E. Gilleland to Norman C. Moseley, AEC, Director of Region II of the Directorate of Regulatory Operations. The control rods of units 2 and 3 were suspected of having similar defects. Similar defects were reported earlier in the control rods for unit 1 of the Millstone Nuclear Plant in July 1973.

The control rods for units 2 and 3 are being inspected by GE at their Wilmington, North Carolina, plant. We have no information as to the results of the inspection at this time. Our final report will contain this information along with an analysis of the safety implications and the corrective action taken.

Very truly yours,

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S PDR

J. E. Gilleland
J. E. Gilleland

Assistant to the Manager of Power

CC: Mr. Norman C. Moseley, Director
Directorate of Regulatory Operations
U.S. Atomic Energy Commission
Region II - Suite 818
230 Peachtree Street, NW.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Handwritten:
Moseley
Sent 5/26/76
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