

December 20, 1996

Dr. Bruce Kaiser
Vice President
Fuel Operations
ABB Combustion Engineering
3300 State Road P
Hematite, MO 63047

SUBJECT: ROUTINE AND AUGMENTED INSPECTION TEAM FOLLOW UP SAFETY INSPECTION
OF ABB COMBUSTION ENGINEERING, HEMATITE, MO (NRC INSPECTION REPORT
NO. 070-00036/96005(DNMS))

Dear Dr. Kaiser:

This refers to the routine safety inspection conducted by Messrs. J. Jacobson, R. Krsek, and C. Blanchard of this office from November 18 through November 22, 1996, at your Hematite facility. The purpose of the inspection was to determine whether activities authorized by the license were conducted safely and in accordance with NRC requirements. In addition to routine inspection activities, the inspection included a verification of the task actions accomplished for the re-start of evaporation operations, as outlined in the letter from Mr. Sharkey to the NRC dated November 21, 1996. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with Mr. Sharkey and other members of your staff.

Areas examined during the inspection are identified in the report. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of a selective examination of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observations of activities in progress.

Based on the results of the inspection, no violations of NRC requirements were identified. A weakness in your procedures program, which resulted in some procedures being available for use which were beyond the two-year technical adequacy review date, was identified by your staff, but not fully resolved, even though approximately six months had elapsed since the issue surfaced. The inspector noted, however, that the content, detail, and format of those procedures which had been reviewed were improved.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR).

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B. Kaiser

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We will gladly discuss any questions you have concerning this inspection.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by R. Caniano for

Cynthia D. Pederson, Director
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

License No. SNM-33
Docket No. 070-00036

Enclosure: Inspection Report
No. 070-00036\96005(DNMS)

cc w/encl: R. W. Sharkey, Director
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R. A. Kucera, Missouri
Department of Natural Resources

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