



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

JUL 25 1985

Docket Nos.: 50-445
and 50-446

Mr. M. D. Spence
President
Texas Utilities Generating Company
400 N. Olive Street
L. B. 81
Dallas, Texas 75201

Dear Mr. Spence:

Subject: Visual Weld Acceptance Criteria for Structural Welding at
Nuclear Power Plants (VWAC)

References: (1) TUGCO letter TXX-4417 (Beck to Youngblood)
dated February 11, 1985
(2) TUGCO letter TXX-4496 (Beck to Noonan)
dated June 24, 1985

Reference (1) expressed TUGCO's interest in the expeditious review of the subject document and your desire to implement its use at Comanche Peak. Reference (2) stated that TUGCO understands that generic approval of the subject report was imminent and requested specific staff approval of the use of this visual weld acceptance criteria for Comanche Peak.

In a letter dated June 26, 1985 from Mr. James P. Knight (NRC), to Mr. Douglas E. Dutton (Nuclear Construction Issues Group) the staff concluded that VWAC Revision 2 was a technically acceptable approach for visual inspection of structural weldments. A copy of that letter is enclosed. Mr. Knight's letter also discusses the documenting of the commitment on the use of VWAC Revision 2; i.e., the commitment must be documented in an FSAR Amendment.

JUL 25 1985

Mr. M. D. Spence
Texas Utilities Generating Company

Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station
Units 1 and 2

cc:
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JUL 25 1985

Texas Utilities Electric Company - 2 - Comanche Peak Electric Station
Units 1 and 2

cc:

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c/o U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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Mr. M. D. Spence

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JUL 25 1985

In order to expedite the review of your commitment, we suggest that you insert the entire VWAC Revision 2 document into the FSAR. This will assure that TUGCO and the staff have a document on the record which defines the specifics of your commitment.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Mr. S. B. Burwell, of my staff.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Vincent S. Noonan, Director
for Comanche Peak Project
Division of Licensing

Enclosure: As stated

cc: See next page

DISTRIBUTION:

Docket File

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

ENCLOSURE

JUN 26 1985

Mr. Douglas E. Dutton, Chairman
Nuclear Construction Issues Group
Southern Company Services
P. O. Box 2625
Birmingham, Alabama 35202

Dear Mr. Dutton:

Subject: Visual Weld Acceptance Criteria for Structural Welding at
Nuclear Power Plants (VWAC) Revision 2

The staff has completed review of the subject document prepared by the Nuclear Construction Issues Group. We have concluded that VWAC Revision 2 represents a technically acceptable approach for visual inspection of structural weldments of nuclear power plants that are under the purview of American Welding Society Standard D1.1 or other non-ASME class structures. VWAC is, in our opinion, not applicable to inservice inspections that are required by Section XI of the ASME Code.

Applicants and licensees wishing to commit to the VWAC must document their commitment in the form of an amendment to the Safety Analysis Report for each power plant. The staff's processing of these amendments can be expected to be expeditious if no significant exceptions are taken to VWAC Revision 2.

We believe it particularly important that uniform training be provided to QC inspectors in the implementation of VWAC Revision 2 to assure consistency of application. The NRC staff, particularly regional inspectors, should be provided opportunities to review your training program and to observe the conduct of the training.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. Knight".

James P. Knight, Acting Director
Division of Engineering
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: V. Stello
H. R. Denton
J. M. Taylor

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