



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

October 31, 1985

Docket No. 99900081/85-01

Exxon Nuclear Company
Nuclear Fuels Department
ATTN: Mr. C. J. Volmer, QA Manager
2101 Horn Rapids Road
Richland, Washington 99352

Gentlemen:

This refers to the inspection conducted by Mr. R. L. Pettis, Jr. of this office on July 8-12, 1985, of your facility in Richland, Washington and to the discussions of our findings with you and members of your staff at the conclusion of the inspection.

This inspection was made as a result of a request from the NRC's Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation that the Vendor Program Branch determine the adequacy of Exxon's QA program relative to recent ECCS Computer Code errors reported to the NRC. Areas examined during the inspection and our findings are discussed in the enclosed report. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of an examination of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observations by the inspector.

During the inspection it was found that the implementation of your QA program failed to meet certain NRC requirements. The most significant of these were in the area of Computer Code verification, maintenance, and error report handling. The specific findings and references to the pertinent requirements are identified in the enclosures to this letter.

Please provide us within 30 days from the date of this letter a written statement containing: (1) a description of steps that have been or will be taken to correct these items; (2) a description of steps that have been or will be taken to prevent recurrence; and (3) the dates your corrective actions and preventive measures were or will be completed. Consideration may be given to extending your response time for good cause shown.

The responses requested by this letter are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, PL 96-511.

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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the Commission's regulations, a copy of this letter and the enclosed inspection report will be placed in the NRC's Public Document Room.

Should you have any questions concerning this inspection, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

GARY G. ZECH

Gary G. Zech, Chief
Vendor Program Branch
Division of Quality Assurance, Vendor,
and Technical Training Center Programs
Office of Inspection and Enforcement

Enclosures:

1. Appendix A-Notice of Nonconformance
2. Appendix B-Inspection Report 92900081/85-01
3. Appendix C-Inspection Data Sheets (12 pages)

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