



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION II
101 MARIETTA STREET, N.W.
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303

U.S. NRC

1994 AUG 27 PM 3:34

MEMORANDUM FOR: James Y. Vorse, Director, Office of ~~Investigation~~
Atlanta Field Office
FIELD OFFICE REGION II

FROM: James P. O'Reilly, Regional Administrator

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATIVE ASSISTANCE NORTH ANNA NUCLEAR PLANT
CASE NO. RII-84-A-0078

An allegation concerning paint applications on ventilation ductwork in the North Anna containments was received by Region II. The information indicated that an improper type of paint had been applied on the ductwork. Subsequently VEPCO was verbally requested by Region II to conduct a technical review to determine the facts and circumstances surrounding this concern. That review by the licensee indicated that the paint may not have been LOCA qualified as required by the FSAR.

Through preliminary interviews conducted by the Senior Resident Inspector and Investigative Coordinator information was developed which indicated that a first line supervisor at North Anna may have been aware that improper paint materials were used on ductwork in the containments. Considering this information, I am requesting that you conduct an inquiry to determine when the licensee first became aware of the apparent use of improper paint (other than when informed by the Region) and what level of licensee management was aware of the problem to include the extent and depth of that knowledge. In addition, your inquiry should examine what resultant actions were taken by the licensee and the extent of communications within licensee management relative to this problem.

Your inquiry should be initiated with formal interviews with the alleged and the two individuals identified as having knowledge of the problem. In addition, you are requested to interview a quality control inspector who claims to have expressed concerns to "engineering" that the paint was not being properly applied.

It appears from information presently available that these interviews may provided sufficient information to test the concerns and answer the above questions; however, should your inquiry develop information which would warrant expanding to a full investigation you would be expected to pursue the matter to a logical conclusion. We will provide any technical assistance that you may need at your request. If information of any significance is developed during your inquiry into this matter, please inform me immediately.

Please contact Bruno Uryc who will provide you the specific details concerning the individuals involved in this matter.


James P. O'Reilly

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EXHIBIT (1)
Page 1 of 1 Pages