



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

RHODE ISLAND ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

Nuclear Science Center

South Ferry Road

Narragansett, R.I. 02882-1197

September 6, 1985

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Region 1

631 Park Avenue

King of Prussia, PA 19406

Attention: Thomas T. Martin, Director  
Division of Radiation Safety  
& Safeguard

Gentlemen:

Please refer to the notice of violation in inspection report 50-193/85-02, dated August 12, 1985. This violation consists of the inability of the Nuclear Science Center to provide the manufacturer's documentation for the efficiency of the absolute filters which are part of the emergency clean up system.

These filters were provided by the manufacturer as an integral part of a clean up filter system in 1963 during the construction phase of the facility. This efficiency specification was part of the equipment specification and the manufacturer's documentation was reviewed before installation of the system. In addition, before issuance of an operating license, the USAEC inspected this facility to insure compliance with construction requirements. It is therefore reasonable to assume that the filter efficiency was one of the items checked by USAEC for compliance before issuing an operating license, especially since the clean up system was an addition to the original facility design and was a well documented ammendment to the original construction permit. We cannot, however, document the manufacturer's certification nor the inspection by the USAEC because we cannot locate these records some twenty-two years later.

The efficiency of this filtering system was reviewed during a previous inspection on September 13, 1971. A copy of the inspection report is attached. As a result of the inspection, we performed a test on October 4, 1971. The test report and results are attached showing an efficiency of 99.986% for the system. It is again reasonable to assume that this test was reviewed during the next inspection. However, the report of the next inspection, September 7, 1972, does not contain the information. A copy of this inspection report is attached.

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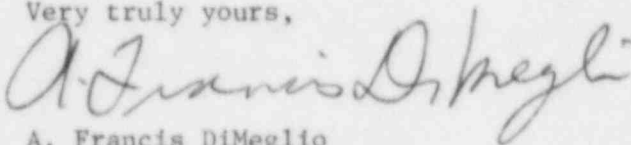
September 6, 1985

Following the most recent inspection, June 11-12, 1985, we arranged to have the filters tested in place. The test was performed by B & B Testing Company of Waltham, Massachusetts on August 13, 1985. Their test of the system showed no penetration of test smoke. Because of the sensitivity of the monitoring instruments, their result is a penetration of 0.01%.

We believe that this penetration test, together with the testing done in 1971, assures that the filters do meet the technical specifications.

The reoccurrence of this type of violation will be prevented by a better record retention system which has been in place for several years.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "A. Francis DiMeglio".

A. Francis DiMeglio  
Director

AFD:pb

Enclosures (3)