

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37401
5N 157B Lookout Place

January 29, 1986

BLRD-50-438/86-02
BLRD-50-439/86-01

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
Attention: Dr. J. Nelson Grace, Regional Administrator
101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 2900
Atlanta, Georgia 30323

Dear Dr. Grace:

BELLEFONTE NUCLEAR PLANT UNITS 1 AND 2 - LONGITUDINAL BUTT WELDS ON A500
STRUCTURAL TUBING ARE ONLY PARTIALLY FUSED - BLRD-50-438/86-02,
BLRD-50-439/86-01 - FIRST INTERIM REPORT

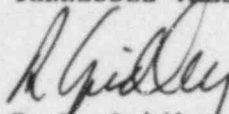
The subject deficiency was initially reported to NRC-OIE Inspector
Steve Weise on December 26, 1985 in accordance with 10 CFR 50.55(e) as SCR BLN
4621. Enclosed is our first interim report. We expect to submit our next
report on or about six months before fuel load. We consider 10 CFR Part 21
applicable to this deficiency.

The delay in submittal of this report was discussed with Art Johnson on
January 29, 1986.

If there are any questions, please get in touch with R. H. Shell at
FTS 858-2688.

Very truly yours,

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY



R. L. Gridley
Manager of Licensing

Enclosure

cc: Mr. James Taylor, Director (Enclosure)
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Records Center (Enclosure)
Institute of Nuclear Power Operations
1100 Circle 75 Parkway, Suite 1500
Atlanta, Georgia 30339

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ENCLOSURE

BELLEFONTE NUCLEAR PLANT UNITS 1 AND 2
LONGITUDINAL BUTT WELDS ON A500 STRUCTURAL TUBING
ARE ONLY PARTIALLY FUSED
BLRD-50-438/86-02 and BLRD-50-439/86-01
SCR BLN 4621
10 CFR 50.55(e)
FIRST INTERIM REPORT

Description of Deficiency

Approximately 1200 linear feet of ASTM A500 Grade B 3x3x1/4 structural tubing exhibit partially fused longitudinal butt weld joints. This condition was noted during the fabrication of a support. The apparent cause was improperly cut material (insufficient width) that did not allow the fusion weld to be completely formed.

Safety Implications

This material is used to fabricate various miscellaneous steel features, including but not limited to pipe supports, conduit supports, cable tray supports, instrument tube supports, and platforms. It is unknown at this time if any failures could develop from the use of this material. A possibility exists that some of this material was transferred from Bellefonte to Watts Bar. In addition, material similar to this is used at other TVA plants.

Corrective Action

The corrective action has not been determined at this time. A testing program is being initiated to determine the physical properties (bending, axial, and torsional capacity) of the structural tubing. In addition, a chemical analysis will be performed to provide a comparison of the chemical properties on material test reports for the material heats shipped to the site. This should allow us to determine the exact amount of deficient material if the percentage of trace chemicals has sufficient differentiation.

A final report will be filed on this deficiency upon determination of the scope of the deficiency and a corrective action plan but no later than six months before fuel load.