January 29, 2001

MEMORANDUM TO: File

FROM: John G. Lamb, Project Manager, Section 1 ***/RA/***
Project Directorate III
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: KEWAUNEE NUCLEAR POWER PLANT - ACCEPTANCE REVIEW REGARDING, "RELOAD SAFETY EVALUATION METHODS TOPICAL REPORT WPSRSEM-NP, REVISION 3," DATED OCTOBER 12, 2000 (TAC NO. MB0306)

During the review of the subject proposed license amendment, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff determined additional information was necessary to complete its review. Attached is the draft request for additional information (RAI). In accordance with Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) Office Letter 803, the draft RAI will be E-Mailed to the licensee and a conference call will be arranged to discuss the RAI. Once the NRC staff and the licensee have a common understanding of the information required, the RAI will be issued formally to the licensee.

Docket No. 50-305

Attachment: As Stated

ACCEPTANCE REVIEW FOR
KEWAUNEE NUCLEAR POWER PLANT
SUBMITTAL "RELOAD SAFETY EVALUATION METHODS TOPICAL REPORT WPSRSEM-NP, REVISION 3," DATED OCTOBER 12, 2000 (TAC NO. MB0306),"

1. The response to Request for Additional Information (RAI) A.3 states that "This model limits time step size to a small multiple of the Courant limit. A careful review of the CVCS malfunction accident indicates an acceptable boron transport model...." Clarify whether the Courant limit is exceeded or not in selecting the time step size for the CVCS malfunction analysis. Expand the discussion to include acceptance criteria and rationale for drawing the conclusion claiming that the boron transport model is acceptable.

2. The response to RAI A.24 states that "The KNPP R3D bubble rise models are justified implicitly in the R3D to DYNODE-Y benchmark...." You are requested to identify the applicable examples included in Reference A.1 and discuss the R3D and DYNODE-Y comparisons to address the acceptability of the bubble rise model used in the KNPP R3D code.

3. The response to RAI A.29 states that "All KNPP R3D base models undergo null-transient analysis. ... The adjustments are within acceptable ranges...." Discuss the acceptable ranges and address the acceptability of the acceptable ranges for the null-transient analysis using KNPP R3D.

4. The response to last item in the RAI states that "...for cycles beyond Cycle 25, "RETRAN" means either of the following:

   The use of RETRAN-3D in 2D mode...; or
   The use of RETRAN-3D in other than 2D mode...."

The staff notes that in a letter dated October 12, 2000, the licensee originally requested for the staff to review and approve only the use of RETRAN-3D in 2D mode for licensing applications. The staff also finds that all the licensee's submittals are intended to use in support of the original request. Accordingly, the staff will limit its review to evaluate the acceptability of the use of RETRAN-2D in 2D mode as the licensee originally requested. If the licensee is requesting for review of the use of RETRAN-2D in other than 2D mode, the licensee should state its request in a written letter and provide a submittal addressing the restrictions and limitations for the use of RETRAN-3D as specified in all the items of RAI A.

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