

Docket No.: 50-445

OCT 26 1984

Mr. M. D. Spence
President
Texas Utilities Generating Company
400 N. Olive Street
Lock Box 81
Dallas, Texas 75201

Dear Mr. Spence:

Subject: Issuance of Amendment No. 8 to Construction Permit CPPR-126 -
Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station, Unit No. 1

In response to your request, dated August 20, 1984, enclosed is Amendment No. 8 to Construction Permit CPPR-126 amending the permit to incorporate the partial exemption granted on August 28, 1984 from General Design Criterion 4 of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix A. The partial exemption granted to Commission regulations will not require the installation of jet impingement shields associated with postulated pipe breaks in eight (8) locations per loop in the primary coolant system piping.

Also enclosed for your information and use is the staff's safety evaluation and a notice, the original of which has been forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

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B. J. Youngblood, Chief
Licensing Branch No. 1
Division of Licensing

Enclosures:

1. Amendment No. 8 to CPPR-126
2. Staff's Safety Evaluation
3. Federal Register Notice

cc: See next page

CONCURRENCES:

DL:LB#1
MRushbrook:es
9/11/84

DL:LB#1
JStefano
9/11/84

SBB
DL:LB#1
SBurwell
9/11/84

DL:LB#1
BJYoungblood
9/11/84

DIST:

Docket File MRushbrook
NRC PDR JStefano
Local PDR SBurwell
PRC System JRutberg
NSIC AToalston
LB#1 Rdg EJordan

JTaylor
OELD, Attorney
ABrauner
ACRS (16)
BCotter, ASLBP

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PDR ADDCK 05000445
A PDR

COMANCHE PEAK

OCT 26 1984

Mr. M. D. Spence
President
Texas Utilities Generating Company
400 N. Olive St., L.B. 81
Dallas, Texas 75201

cc: Nicholas S. Reynolds, Esq.
Bishop, Liberman, Cook,
Purcell & Reynolds
1200 Seventeenth Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

Robert A. Wooldridge, Esq.
Worsham, Forsythe, Sampels &
Wooldridge
2001 Bryan Tower, Suite 2500
Dallas, Texas 75201

Mr. Homer C. Schmidt
Manager - Nuclear Services
Texas Utilities Generating Company
Skyway Tower
400 North Olive Street
L. B. 81
Dallas, Texas 75201

Mr. H. R. Rock
Gibbs and Hill, Inc.
393 Seventh Avenue
New York, New York 10001

Mr. A. T. Parker
Westinghouse Electric Corporation
P. O. Box 355
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15230

Renea Hicks, Esq.
Assistant Attorney General
Environmental Protection Division
P. O. Box 12548, Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711

Mrs. Juanita Ellis, President
Citizens Association for Sound
Energy
1426 South Polk
Dallas, Texas 75224

Ms. Nancy H. Williams
CYGNA
101 California Street
San Francisco, California 94111

Mr. James E. Cummins
Resident Inspector/Comanche Peak
Nuclear Power Station
c/o U. S. Nuclear Regulatory
Commission
P. O. Box 38
Glen Rose, Texas 76043

Mr. John T. Collins
U. S. NRC, Region IV
611 Ryan Plaza Drive
Suite 1000
Arlington, Texas 76011

Mr. Lanny Alan Sinkin
114 W. 7th, Suite 220
Austin, Texas 78701

B. R. Clements
Vice President Nuclear
Texas Utilities Generating Company
Skyway Tower
400 North Olive Street
L. B. 81
Dallas, Texas 75201

William A. Burchette, Esq.
1200 New Hampshire Avenue, N. W.
Suite 420
Washington, D. C. 20036

Ms. Billie Pirner Garde
Citizens Clinic Director
Government Accountability Project
1901 Que Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20009

David R. Pigott, Esq.
Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe
600 Montgomery Street
San Francisco, California 94111

Anthony Z. Roisman, Esq.
Trial Lawyers for Public Justice
2000 P. Street, N. W.
Suite 611
Washington, D. C. 20036

OCT 26 1984

cc: Mr. Dennis Kelley
Resident Inspector - Comanche Peak
c/o U. S. NRC
P. O. Box 1029
Granbury, Texas 76048

Mr. John W. Beck
Manager - Licensing
Texas Utilities Electric Company
Skyway Tower
400 N. Olive Street
L. B. 81
Dallas, Texas 75201

Mr. Jack Redding
Licensing
Texas Utilities Generating Company
4901 Fairmont Avenue
Bethesda, Maryland 20014

COMANCHE PEAK OTHER

OCT 26 1984

Mr. Paul Gosselink
Attorney General's Office
P. O. Box 12548, Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711

Bureau of Radiation Control
State of Texas
1100 West 49th Street
Austin, Texas 78756

Director, Governor's Budget
and Planning Office
Executive Office Building
411 West 13th Street
Austin, Texas 78701

Office of the Governor
ATTN: Darla Parker
Office of Intergovernmental Relations
P. O. Box 13561
Austin, Texas 78711

Honorable George Crump
County Judge
Glen Rose, Texas 76043



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

TEXAS UTILITIES ELECTRIC COMPANY

TEXAS MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY

BRAZOS ELECTRIC POWER COOPERATIVE

TEX-LA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE OF TEXAS, INC.

DOCKET NO. 50-445

COMANCHE PEAK STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNIT NO. 1

CONSTRUCTION PERMIT

Amendment No. 8

Construction Permit No. CPPR-126

The application for this amendment to Construction Permit No. CPPR-126, transmitted by Texas Utilities Generating Company* letter dated August 20, 1984, makes effective the partial exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix A, General Design Criterion 4 granted and issued by the Commission on August 28, 1984 for the Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station, Unit 1. The partial exemption granted does not require the licensee to install jet impingement shields in eight locations per loop in the Unit 1 primary coolant piping system as specified in Section 4.0 of the value-impact analysis submitted by the licensee's letter to the Commission (TXX-4159) dated April 23, 1984.

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) finds that:
 - A. The granting of the above noted partial exemption to the requirements of General Design Criterion 4, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, and the Commission's rules and regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I. The analysis provided by the licensee upon which the partial exemption was granted represents a reasonable basis for not incurring the costs associated with installing the jet impingement shields; and in view of the low probability of pipe breaks at the specified location covered by the partial exemption granted, the reduction in occupational exposure resulting from the exemption outweighs the potential accident exposure reduction that might result from the installation of the jet impingement barriers.

*Texas Utilities Generating Company (TUGCO) is authorized to act as agent for Texas Utilities Electric Company (TUEC), Texas Municipal Power Agency (TMPA), Brazos Electric Power Cooperative (BEPC) and the Tex-La Electric Cooperative of Texas, Inc. (Tex-La), and has exclusive responsibility and control over the physical construction, operation and maintenance of the facility.

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- B. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.
 - C. Issuance of this amendment will not result in any environmental impacts not previously considered.
2. Accordingly, Construction Permit No. CPPR-126 is hereby amended to reflect a change in the wording of Paragraph 3 and Paragraph 3.C. to read as follows:
3. "This permit shall be deemed to contain and shall be subject to the conditions specified in Sections 50.54 and 50.55 of said regulations; is subject to all applicable provisions of the Act, and rules, regulations, and orders of the Commission now or hereafter in effect as modified by duly authorized exemption specified in 1. above; and is subject to the conditions specified or incorporated below:"
- 3.C. "This construction permit authorizes the Applicants to construct the facility described in the application as modified by duly authorized exemption specified in 1. above and in the hearing record, in accordance with the principal architectural and engineering criteria and environmental protection commitments set forth therein."
3. This amendment is effective as of the date of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Frank Miraglia/for

Darrell G. Eisenhut, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Date of Issuance:

CONCURRENCES: *See previous concurrences

CHANGES MADE 10/18/84:es

DL:LB#1	DL:LB#1
MRushbrook:es	JStefano
/ /84	10/18/84

*DL:LB#1
SBurwell
9/11/84

*DELD
JScinto
9/28/84

*DL:LB#1
BJYoungblood
9/11/84

(C-76-84)

*AD:DL
TMNovak
10/5/84

D:DL
DGE Eisenhut
10/18/84



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

SAFETY EVALUATION

CONSTRUCTION PERMIT CPPR-126 AMENDMENT NO. 8

COMANCHE PEAK UNIT 1

INTRODUCTION

By letter dated August 20, 1984, Texas Utilities Generating Company (TUGCO or the licensee), the lead construction agent of the Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station, requested an amendment to Construction Permit CPPR-126, to incorporate the partial Exemption granted by the Commission, dated August 28, 1984, pertaining to General Design Criterion (GDC) 4 of 10 CFR 50, Appendix A. The partial exemption granted by the Commission will not require the licensee to install jet impingement shields in eight locations per loop in the Comanche Peak, Unit 1 primary coolant piping system, as specified in Section 4.0 of the value-impact analysis submitted by the licensee's letter to the Commission (TXX-4159) dated April 23, 1984, which together with the technical information contained in the Westinghouse Report WCAP-10527, provided a comprehensive justification in support of requesting a partial exemption from the requirements of GDC 4.

EVALUATION

By letter dated August 28, 1984, the licensee was informed that the Commission had granted the Exemption requested, to the extent clarified in the licensee's letter dated June 7, 1984, and enclosed a copy of the Exemption to the licensee. The licensee was advised that NRC was processing the requested Construction Permit amendment separately (licensee's August 20, 1984 letter) in order to make the Exemption effective.

The staff's detailed evaluation and basis for granting the partial exemption to the requirements of GDC 4 is delineated in the Exemption enclosed to the NRC letter dated August 28, 1984. A summary of the staff's evaluation findings and conclusions immediately follow.

SUMMARY OF EVALUATION FINDINGS

From its evaluation of the analysis contained in Westinghouse Report WCAP-10527 for Comanche Peak, the staff found that the licensee presented an acceptable technical justification, which adequately addressed the staff's evaluation criteria, for not installing protective devices to deal with the dynamic effects of large pipe ruptures in the main loop primary coolant system piping of Comanche Peak Units 1 and 2. This finding is predicated on the fact that each of the parameters evaluated for Comanche Peak is enveloped by the generic analysis performed by Westinghouse, contained in Westinghouse Report WCAP-9558, Revision 2, and accepted by the staff in Enclosure (1) to NRC Generic Letter 84-04 (February 1, 1984). Specifically, the NRC determined that:

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- (1) The loads associated with the highest stressed location in the main loop primary system piping for Comanche Peak are considerably lower than the bounding loads used by Westinghouse in Report WCAP-9558 or those established by the staff as limits (e.g., a moment of 42,000 in-kips in Enclosure (1) to 8 Generic Letter 84-04).
- (2) For Westinghouse plants, there is no history of cracking failure in reactor primary coolant system loop piping. The Westinghouse reactor coolant system primary loop has an operating history which demonstrates its inherent stability. This includes a low susceptibility to cracking failure from the effects of corrosion (e.g. intergranular stress corrosion cracking), water hammer, or fatigue (low and high cycle). This operating history totals over 400 reactor-years, including five plants each having 15 years of operation and 15 other plants with over 10 years of operation.
- (3) The results of the leak rate calculations performed for Comanche Peak, using an initial through-wall crack are identical to those of Enclosure 1 to the NRC Generic Letter 84-04. The Comanche Peak plant has an RCS pressure boundary leak detection system which is consistent with the guidelines of Regulatory Guide 1.45, and it can detect leakage of one (1) gpm in one hour. The calculated leak rate through the postulated flaw is large relative to the sensitivity of the Comanche Peak plant leak detection system.
- (4) The expected margin in terms of load for the leakage-size crack under normal plus SSE loads is within the bounds calculated by the staff in Section 4.2.3 of Enclosure (1) to NRC Generic Letter 84-04. In addition, the staff found a significant margin in terms of loads larger than normal plus SSE loads.
- (5) The margin between the leakage-size crack and the critical-size crack was calculated. Again, the results demonstrated that a significant margin exists and is within the bounds of Section 4.2.3 of Enclosure 1 to the NRC Generic Letter 84-04.
- (6) As an integral part of its review, the staff's evaluation of the material properties data in the Westinghouse Report WCAP-10456 is enclosed as Appendix 1 to the Exemption granted by the Commission. In this data for ten (10) plants, including the Comanche Peak Units, are presented, and lower bound or "worst case" materials properties were identified and used in the analysis presented in Westinghouse Report WCAP-10527. The staff's upper bound of 3000 in-lb/in² on the applied J (Appendix 1 of the Exemption, page 6) was not exceeded; the applied J for Comanche Peak in the Westinghouse Report WCAP-10527 was substantially less than 3000 in-lb/in².

The NRC staff, after several review meetings with the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) and a meeting with the NRC Committee to Review Generic Requirements (CRGR), concluded that for certain facilities an exemption from the regulations would be acceptable as an alternative for resolution of USI A-2 for sixteen facilities owned by eleven licensees in the Westinghouse Owner's Group (one of these facilities, Fort Calhoun has a Combustion Engineering nuclear steam supply system). This NRC staff position was stated in Generic Letter 84-04, published on February 1, 1984. The generic letter states that the affected licensees must justify an exemption to GDC 4 on a plant-specific basis. Other PWR applicants or licensees may request similar exemptions from the requirements of GDC 4 provided that they submit an acceptable technical basis for eliminating the need to postulate pipe breaks.

The acceptance of an exemption was made possible by the development of advanced fracture mechanics technology. These advanced fracture mechanics techniques deal with relatively small flaws in piping components (either postulated or real) and examine their behavior under various pipe loads. The objective is to demonstrate by deterministic analyses that the detection of small flaws by either inservice inspection or leakage monitoring systems is assured long before the flaws can grow to critical or unstable sizes which could lead to large break areas such as the DEGB or its equivalent. The concept underlying such analyses is referred to as "leak-before-break" (LBB). There is no implication that piping failures cannot occur, but rather that improved knowledge of the failure modes of piping systems and the application of appropriate remedial measures, if indicated, can reduce the probability of catastrophic failure to insignificant values.

Advanced fracture mechanics technology was applied in Westinghouse Topical Reports WCAP-9558, Rev. 2, and WCAP-9787 and Westinghouse Letter Report NS-EPR-2519 to the NRC dated November 10, 1981, submitted to the staff by Westinghouse on behalf of the licensees belonging to the USI A-2 Owners Group. Although the Westinghouse topical reports were intended to resolve the issue of asymmetric blowdown loads that resulted from a limited number of discrete break locations, the technology advanced in these reports demonstrated that the probability of breaks occurring in the primary coolant system main loop piping is sufficiently low such that these breaks need not be considered as a design basis for requiring installation of pipe whip restraints or jet impingement shields. The staff's Topical Report Evaluation is attached as Enclosure 1 to NRC Generic Letter 84-04.

Probabilistic fracture mechanics studies conducted by the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories (LLNL) on both Westinghouse and Combustion Engineering nuclear steam supply system main loop piping (LLNL Report UCRL-86249, Feb. 1984) confirm that both the probability of leakage (e.g., undetected flaw growth through the pipe wall by fatigue) and the probability of a DEGB are very low. The results

given in Reference 8 are that the best-estimate leak probabilities for Westinghouse nuclear steam supply system main loop piping range from 1.2×10^{-8} to 1.5×10^{-7} per plant year and the best-estimate DEGB probabilities range from 1×10^{-12} to 7×10^{-12} per plant year. Similarly, the best-estimate leak probabilities for Combustion Engineering nuclear steam supply system main loop piping range from 1×10^{-8} per plant year to 3×10^{-8} per plant year, and the best-estimate DEGB probabilities range from 5×10^{-14} to 5×10^{-13} per plant year. These results do not affect core melt probabilities in any significant way.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

In advance of issuing the Exemption, the Commission published in the Federal Register on August 27, 1984 (49FR33945) an "environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact." It was stated in that assessment that the planned Exemption action would not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. The Exemption granted involves design features located entirely within the plant restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20; does not affect plant radioactive and non-radioactive effluents; has no other environmental impact; and does not involve the use of resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement (construction permit and operating license) for Comanche Peak Unit 1.

This amendment involves changes in the installation or use of facility components located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. The staff has determined that the amendment involves no significant increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types, of any effluents that may be released offsite, and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The Commission had determined that this amendment involves no significant hazards considerations. Accordingly, this amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b) no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of this amendment.

CONCLUSION

In granting the Exemption, the staff found that the advanced fracture mechanics techniques used by the licensee provided an assurance that flaws in primary system piping will be detected before they reach a size that could lead to unstable crack growth. For this reason, further protection provided by jet impingement shields against the dynamic effect of jet impingement resulting from the discharge from a double-ended guillotine break in the primary piping is unnecessary. With full protection against dynamic effects provided by advanced analysis techniques, and based on the considerations discussed above,

we conclude that: (1) the proposed amendment to Construction Permit CPPR-126 permitting the use of the Exemption in construction of Unit 1 does not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of accidents previously considered, does not create the possibility of an accident of a type different from any evaluated previously, does not involve a significant decrease in a safety margin, and thus does not involve a significant hazards consideration; (2) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner; and (3) such activities will be in compliance with the Commission's regulations and the issuance of the amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security, or to the health and safety of the public.

JS

John J. Stefano, Project Manager
Licensing Branch No. 1
Division of Licensing

JS

B. J. Youngblood, Chief
Licensing Branch No. 1
Division of Licensing

CONCURRENCES: *See previous concurrences

DL:LB#1
MRushbrook:es
10/8/84

DL:LB#1
JStefano
10/18/84

*DL:LB#1
BJYoungblood
10/7/84
P-26-87

Date of Issuance: OCT 26 1984

REFERENCES

- (1) Westinghouse Report MT-SME-3135, "Technical Basis for Eliminating Large Primary Loop Pipe Ruptures as the Structural Design Basis for Comanche Peak Units 1 and 2," Oct. 1983, Westinghouse Class 2 proprietary.
- (2) Westinghouse Report WCAP-10456, "The Effects of Thermal Aging on the Structural Integrity of Cast Stainless Steel Piping for Westinghouse Nuclear Steam Supply Systems," Nov. 1983, Westinghouse Class 2 proprietary.
- (3) NRC letter to R. J. Gary of Texas Utilities Generating Company, "Request for Additional Information Concerning Leak-Before-Break Analysis for Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station (Units 1 and 2) dated Mar. 2, 1984.
- (4) Westinghouse Report WCAP-10527, "Technical Bases for Eliminating Large Loop Pipe Rupture as the Structural Design Basis for Comanche Peak Units 1 and 2", Apr. 1984, Westinghouse Class 2 proprietary.
- (5) Texas Utilities Generating Company letter TXX-4197, "Request for Partial Exemption" (H. C. Schmidt to B. J. Youngblood) dated June 7, 1984.
- (6) Texas Utilities Generating Company letter TXX-4118, "Request for Partial Exemption" (R. J. Gary to B. J. Youngblood) dated Feb. 17, 1984.
- (7) Westinghouse Report WCAP-9558, "Mechanistic Fracture Evaluation of Reactor Coolant Pipe Containing a Postulated Circumferential Throughwall Crack," Rev. 2, May 1981, Westinghouse Class 2 proprietary.
- (8) NRC Generic Letter 84-04, "Safety Evaluation of Westinghouse Topical Reports Dealing with Elimination of Postulated Breaks in PWR Primary Main Loops," Feb. 1, 1984.

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. 50-445

TEXAS UTILITIES ELECTRIC COMPANY

TEXAS MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY

BRAZOS ELECTRIC POWER COOPERATIVE-

TEX-LA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE OF TEXAS, INC.

COMANCHE PEAK STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNIT NO. 1

NOTICE OF ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT TO CONSTRUCTION PERMIT

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has issued Amendment No. 8 to Construction Permit No. CPPR-126. The amendment reflects changes to two conditions contained in the Construction Permit CPPR-126 to incorporate modifications authorized by an exemption to the General Design Criterion 4 of 10 CFR 50, Appendix A issued on August 28, 1984. The Amendment makes effective the partial exemption granted by the Commission, exempting the licensee from the requirement to install jet impingement shields in eight locations per loop in the Comanche Peak, Unit 1 primary coolant piping system.

The application for the amendment complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations. The Commission has made appropriate findings as required by the Act and the Commission's rules and regulations in 10 CFR Chapter I, which are set forth in the amendment. Prior public notice of the amendment was not required since the amendment does not involve a significant hazards consideration.

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For further details with respect to this action, see (1) the application for amendment, dated August 20, 1984; (2) Amendment No. 8 to Construction Permit CPPR-126, (3) the Commission's related Safety Evaluation, and (4) Letter to M. D. Spence, Texas Utilities Generating Company from B. J. Youngblood, dated August 28, 1984, Subject: Request for Exemption from a Portion of General Design Criterion 4 of Appendix A to 10 CFR Part 50 regarding the need to Analyze Large Primary Loop Pipe Ruptures as the Structure Design Basis for Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station (Units 1 and 2). All of these items are available for public inspection in the Commission's Public Document Room in 1717 H Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20555 and in the Somervell County Public Library, On the Square, P. O. Box 417, Glen Rose, Texas 76403. Items 2, 3 and 4 may be requested in writing to the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D. C. 20555, Attention: Director, Division of Licensing.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland, this 26th day of October 1984.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

JS
B. J. Youngblood, Chief
Licensing Branch No. 1
Division of Licensing

CONCURRENCES: *See previous concurrences

DL:LB#1
MRushbrook:es
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DL:LB#1
JStefano
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SBurwell
9/11/84

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JScinto
9/12/84

* DL:LB#1
BJYoungblood
9/12/84

SUBJECT: AMENDMENT NO. 8 TO CONSTRUCTION PERMIT CPPR-126 - COMANCHE PEAK STEAM
ELECTRIC STATION, UNIT NO. 1

OCT 26 1984

DISTRIBUTION:

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NRC PDR

Local PDR

PRC System

NSIC

LB#1 Reading

M. Rushbrook

S. Burwell

J. Stefano

J. Saltzman, SAB

G. Mazuno

S. Treby

J. Scinto

CMiles

HDenton

WMiller, LFMB

NGrace

EJordan

LHarmon

TBarnhart (4)

Inez Bailey