

March 13, 2003

Carl Terry, BWRVIP Chairman  
Niagara Mohawk Power Company  
Post Office Box 63  
Lycoming, NY 13093

SUBJECT: EXTENSION OF SCHEDULE FOR REPORTING RIVER BEND STATION  
SURVEILLANCE CAPSULE TEST RESULTS UNDER THE BWR INTEGRATED  
SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM

Dear Mr. Terry:

By your letter dated February 20, 2003, the Boiling Water Reactor Vessel and Internals Project (BWRVIP) requested an extension in the reporting date for the results from the testing of the first River Bend Station (RBS) surveillance capsule as part of the BWR Integrated Surveillance Program (ISP). This would be the first surveillance capsule tested under the ISP and, as noted in your letter, "resources could not be allocated in time to complete RBS capsule testing, analysis and reporting of results by February 2003," as required under Appendix H to 10 CFR Part 50 and ISP implementation guidelines which had been previously approved by the NRC. Consistent with Appendix H to 10 CFR Part 50, IV. A., you requested an extension of the date by which the results were required to be reported to the NRC from February 2003 to June 2003.

The staff has concluded that this extension in the reporting of the results from this ISP surveillance capsule will not change the overall effectiveness of the ISP and will not affect the continued safe operation of the BWR fleet. Therefore, your request to extend this reporting requirement interval is acceptable.

If you should have further questions regarding any matters associated with implementation of the ISP, please contact Matthew A. Mitchell (301-415-3303) of my staff.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

William H. Bateman, Chief  
Materials and Chemical Engineering Branch  
Division of Engineering  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: BWRVIP CC List

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Niagara Mohawk Power Company  
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Materials and Chemical Engineering Branch  
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