January 7, 1998

Mr. Michael J. Colomb
Site Executive Officer
New York Power Authority
James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant
Post Office Box 41
Lycoming, NY 13093

SUBJECT: NRC MAINTENANCE RULE TEAM INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-333/97-80

Dear Mr. Colomb:

This refers to the team inspection conducted on September 29 through October 3, 1997, at the J. A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Generating Station. The purpose of the inspection was to review the implementation of the maintenance rule program under 10 CFR 50.65 at the J. A. FitzPatrick generating station. The enclosed report presents the results of this inspection effort.

The team concluded that the requirements of the maintenance rule was effectively being met at the J. A. FitzPatrick generating station. Scoping, goal setting, and monitoring were conservatively addressed in all instances. System engineers were very knowledgeable and had performed effective root cause evaluations and corrective action determinations. The plant safety assessment program for taking equipment out of service was appropriately utilized. It was evident that considerable work had been expended to ensure that mechanisms were in place to provide effective controls of structures, systems and components within the maintenance rule program.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be place in the NRC Public Document Room.

Sincerely,

James T. Wiggins, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No.: 50-333
License No.: DPR-59

IE01

Enclosure: NRC Inspection Report No. 50-333/97-80

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