POWER AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

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November 26, 1980
IPN-80-112

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Attention: Mr. Steven A. Varga, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch No. 1
Division of Licensing

Subject: Indian Point 3 Nuclear Power Plant
Docket No. 50-286
Auxiliary Feedwater System (AFWS)
Minimum Flow Requirements

Dear Sir:

The purpose of this letter is to respond to your October 9, 1980 letter regarding minimum flow requirements for the Auxiliary Feedwater System (AFWS). Your letter requested that the Authority demonstrate by analyses that an AFWS flow rate of 300 gpm will adequately remove decay heat and meet applicable criteria. Alternatively, minimum AFWS flow could be increased to 400 gpm by installing J-tubes on the feedring and resetting the throttle position of the flow control valves.

As the result of a program to determine the causes of a November 13, 1973 feedwater-hammer incident, and to avert further similar incidents, J-tubes have already been installed on the Indian Point Unit 3 steam generator feedrings. These modifications were detailed in Consolidated Edison's March 12 and August 30, 1974 submittals to the NRC. Furthermore, in accordance with the Westinghouse Technical Bulletin NSD-TB-79-8, the installation of J-tubes obviates the need for procedural controls of AFW flow rates and permits timely recovery of SG water levels during transients.

The Authority will, therefore, increase the preset throttled position of the AFWS flow control valves to deliver 400 gpm total to at least two intact steam generators assuming the worst case single active failure. This increased flow rate will decrease the

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possibility of water hammer since the feedring will be less likely to become uncovered. It will also eliminate the need for operator action except in cases when the feedring becomes uncovered and appears it will remain uncovered for more than five minutes. This increased flowrate supports the Authority's August 11, 1980 AFWS analyses.

It is anticipated that these changes will be completed during the next outage.

Very truly yours,

G. M. Wilverding

for J. P. Bayne
Senior Vice President
Nuclear Generation

cc: Mr. T. Rebelowski
Resident Inspector
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