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April 26, 1982
IPN-82-37

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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
Environmental Qualification of RHR
Valve Motor Operators



Dear Sir:

This letter requests approval to delay environmental qualification of the motor operators for two Residual Heat Removal (RHR) valves.

RHR valves 730 and 731 provide a redundant pressure barrier between the RCS and RHR system. They are located in the single suction line to the RHR pumps. During refueling operations the RHR system provides flow to the RCS for continuous decay heat removal except for short periods of time while core alterations are being performed.

In our December 30, 1981 letter (IPN-81-98), the Authority proposed a schedule for replacing the motor operators of valves 730 and 731 (see schedule item no. 33). The schedule indicated that this work would be performed during our cycle 3/4 refueling outage. In preparation for this work the Authority has determined that a more appropriate time to do this work would be when RHR flow is not required. While it may be possible to replace the motor operators without interrupting RHR flow, difficulties may arise which could cause control of these valves to be inoperable for an extended period of time or require valve disassembly.

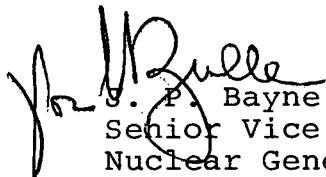
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The Authority requests NRC approval to defer replacement of the motor operators for RHR valves 730 and 731 until our ten year service inspection interval when the entire core will be removed to permit reactor vessel inspection and RHR flow will not be required for an extended period of time.

If you have any questions regarding this matter please call Mr. J. Lamberski of my staff.

Very truly yours,


J. P. Bayne
Senior Vice President
Nuclear Generation

cc: Mr. W. H. Baunack, Acting Chief
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