

Indian Point 3
Nuclear Power Plant
P.O. Box 215
Buchanan, New York 10511
914 736.8001



Joseph E. Russell
Resident Manager

January 19, 1990
IP3-90-004
JC-90-003B

License No. 50-286
Docket No. DPR-64

Charles E. Rossi, Director
Division of Operational Events Assessment
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Mail Station P1-137
Washington, D.C. 20555

Subject: Indian Point 3 Nuclear Power Plant
NRC Bulletin No. 89-03 "Potential Loss of Required
Shutdown Margin During Refueling Operations".

References: NRC Bulletin No. 89-03: "Potential Loss of
Required Shutdown Margin During Refueling
Operations"

Dear Mr. Rossi:

Reference (1) required that all addressees assure that
adequate shutdown margin is maintained during all refueling
operations by accomplishing the following actions:

1. Assure that any intermediate fuel assembly
configuration (including control rods) intended to be
used during refueling is identified and evaluated to
maintain sufficient refueling boron concentration to
result in a minimum shutdown margin of approximately
5%.
2. Assure that fuel loading procedures only allow those
intermediate fuel assembly configurations that do not
violate the allowable shutdown margin and that these
procedures are strictly adhered to.
3. Assure that the staff responsible for refueling
operations is trained in the procedures recommended in
Item 2 above and understand the potential consequences
of violating these procedures. This training should

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include the fundamental aspects of criticality control with higher enriched fuel assemblies.

This letter outlines the Authority's action in response to the bulletin requirements and provides compliance with all applicable actions per Reference (1).

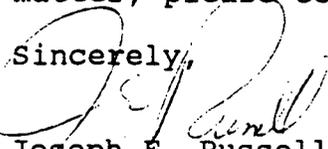
The Authority will identify and evaluate each planned intermediate core location intended to be used during refueling to ensure that sufficient shutdown margin is maintained.

Refueling procedures will be revised to 1) identify evaluated intermediate positions and 2) will state that in the event a different intermediate position than those identified needs to be used, an evaluation to ensure that sufficient shutdown margin is maintained, will be performed.

The Authority will provide training to Senior Reactor Operators, who are responsible for refueling operations, which will include 1) fundamental aspects of criticality control with higher enriched fuel assemblies, 2) the procedures recommended above and 3) the potential consequences of violating these procedures.

Should you or your staff have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. M. Peckham of my staff.

Sincerely,

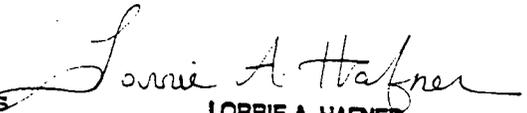


Joseph E. Russell
Resident Manager
Indian Point Unit 3
Nuclear Power Plant

JER:JC/rl

State of New York
County of Westchester
Subscribed and sworn to before me this

19th day of January 1990



LORRIE A. HAFNER
Notary Public, State of New York
No. 4828710, Dutchess County
Term Expires May 2, 1990

cc: next page

cc: Mr. William T. Russell
Regional Administrator
U.S. Regulatory Commission
Region I
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, PA 19406

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