

JUL 05 1973

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RO (3)
HSpecter
JLee
ACRS (16)

Docket No. 50-250

Mr. William J. Cahill, Jr.
Vice President
Consolidated Edison Company
of New York, Inc.
4 Irving Place
New York, New York 10003

Dear Mr. Cahill:

Two incidents have occurred at two different nuclear power plants that indicate a deficiency in the design of refueling water storage systems that warrants a review of the monitoring and control systems to prevent overflow of these tanks and uncontrolled release of radioactive liquid to the environs. Both incidents involved the inadvertent overflow of the refueling water storage tanks into uncontrolled water pathways. In one case, failure of the water level indicator in the control room during a filling operation resulted in liquid overflow from the refueling water storage tank to the facade drain trough which drained to the facade sump and discharged to the sewage treatment plant and to the sewage retention pond. In the second case, operator error resulted in liquid overflow from the refueling water storage tank to the plant drainage system to the storm drainage system and subsequently to Black Creek. A copy of the licensee's reports on these two occurrences are enclosed for your information.

As a result of these occurrences, we request that you perform a review of the refueling water storage tank system design, and other liquid tanks which contain radioactivity, that overflow to other than a controlled water pathway to the environs. All modes of operation and failure must be considered. In the cases cited above, alarms for high level overflow or excessive leakage had not been included for the tanks and control of such overflow or leakage had not been adequately considered in the design of these systems.

Also, your procedures should be reviewed to ensure that they provide for operator surveillance and proper action concerning the liquid storage tanks which contain radioactivity, particularly when fluid is being transferred into the tanks.

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JUL 05 1973

The results of your review and estimates of the schedule for design, fabrication, and installation of any modifications found to be necessary are requested within forty-five days. This information should be provided with one signed original and thirty-nine additional copies.

Sincerely,

Original signed by R. C. DeYoung

R. C. DeYoung, Assistant Director
for Pressurized Water Reactors
Directorate of Licensing

Enclosures:

- 1. Ltr. from Wisconsin Electric
dtd 8/11/71
- 2. Ltr. from Carolina Power and
Light dtd. 5/1/73

cc w/encs:

LeBoeuf, Lamb, Leiby,
and MacRae

ATTN: Arvia E. Upton, Esq.
1821 Jefferson Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

J. Bruce MacDonald
Deputy Commissioner and Counsel
New York Department of Commerce
99 Washington Avenue
Albany, New York 12210

Angus Macbeth, Esq.
Natural Resources Defense
Council, Inc.
15 West 44th Street
New York, New York 10036

Nicholas A. Robinson, Esq.
Marshall, Bratter, Greene,
Allison & Tucker
430 Park Avenue
New York, New York 10022

CRESS OFFICE	L:PWR-3 <i>AS</i>	L:PWR-3 <i>AVD for</i>	L:AD/PWR <i>RC DeYoung</i>			
SURNAME	HSpeter	Vassallo	RC DeYoung			
7/2/73 DATE	7/3/73	7/3/73	7/3/73			

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Packet no. 50-236

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Vice President
Consolidated Edison Company
of New York, Inc.
4 Irving Place
New York, New York 10003

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Mr. William J. Cahill, Jr.

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Original signed by R. C. DeYoung

R. C. DeYoung, Assistant Director
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