

ATTACHMENT I

LER 79-016/01T-2
Docket No. 50-286

The Power Authority of
The State of New York

The plant was in the cold shutdown condition for a refueling outage.

On November 27, 1979, the Power Authority was notified by our Nuclear Steam Supplier, the Westinghouse Electric Corporation, that a detailed evaluation of the current LOCA/ECCS (October 1975) evaluation model indicates that a non-conservative feature could exist in the Appendix K LOCA analysis with respect to the portion of the calculation related to fuel rod burst. The potential non-conservative feature of the Westinghouse large break ECCS evaluation model is as follows. The model uses a curve which represents fuel clad burst conditions for clad heatup rates of 25°F/second and greater. The evaluation discussed above revealed that heatup rates could be less than 25°F/second. During the LOCA transient, the fuel clad burst curve is dependent on the clad heatup rate prior to burst and a reduction in heatup rate causes earlier clad burst. A shift in clad burst time can affect the peak clad temperature (PCT) calculated for the LOCA transient.

It was determined by Westinghouse that, were the heatup rate to be less than 25°F/second, the fuel burst calculations would indeed be non-conservative. Westinghouse has since completed a sensitivity study, based on the February, 1978, ECCS analysis, indicating that present operating guidelines are sufficiently conservative so as not to require any change in F_0 . Specifically, a penalty of 0.038 would have been imposed upon our present F_0 of 2.17. This is completely absorbed, however, by a credit of +0.20 due to modifications of the LOCA analysis computer code.

No similar events have been recorded to date.