

Indian Point 3
Nuclear Power Plant
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Robert J. Barrett
Site Executive Officer

October 15, 1999
IPN-99-113

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

SUBJECT: Indian Point 3 Nuclear Power Plant
Docket No. 50-286
Response to Mid-Cycle Plant Performance Review

REFERENCE: 1. NRC letter dated September 30, 1999; J. Rogge to R. Barrett;
"Mid-Cycle Plant Performance Review" - Indian Point 3.
2. NRC letter dated October 13, 1999; J. Rogge to R. Barrett; "NRC
Integrated Inspection 50-286 / 99-07."

Dear Sir:

This is to provide clarification of the following statement in the NRC mid-cycle Plant Performance Review of Indian Point 3 (Reference 1).

"In addition, we observed that the post-trip review activities following the August 12, 1999 reactor trip were ineffective in reconstructing the sequence of events and in identifying remedial corrective actions prior to briefing management on restart readiness."

The Authority is concerned that this statement could be misunderstood and is providing additional information for clarification. The reactor trip occurred early in the morning of August 12. After plant conditions were stabilized, the Plant Manager set a schedule for the Plant Transient Review Group (PTRG) to provide a briefing to management. When that briefing was conducted, the PTRG had not completed the investigation and was not yet in a position to fully describe the cause and corrective actions regarding the trip. The statement in the PPR refers to this initial briefing, which did not meet Senior Management expectations. Management did not authorize restart based on this initial briefing. The PTRG resumed their investigation and a subsequent briefing was held. The information available at this final briefing was appropriate to support a management decision to safely return Indian Point 3 (IP3) to service, as mentioned in Reference 2.

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The Authority has further used this opportunity to review the PTRG response and has initiated improvements as part of the IP3 corrective action program.

The Authority is making no new commitments in this letter. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Ken Peters.

Very truly yours,



Robert J. Barrett
Site Executive Officer
Indian Point 3 Nuclear Power Plant

cc: Regional Administrator
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