

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

January 20, 1999
IPN-99-006

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

SUBJECT: Indian Point 3 Nuclear Power Plant
Docket No. 50-286
**Transmittal of Revised Technical Specification Bases Page
Regarding Battery Performance Discharge Testing**

Dear Sir:

This letter transmits a revision to the Indian Point 3 Technical Specification Bases page 4.6-3 regarding performance discharge testing of the station batteries. This change does not involve an unreviewed safety question based on the Authority's evaluation using the criteria of 10CFR50.59.

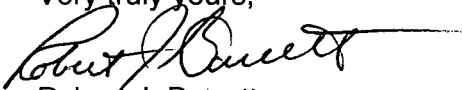
The change consists of deleting the underlined words in the following sentence:

"The performance discharge test is a test of the constant current capacity of a battery, normally done in the as-found condition after having been in service, to detect any change in the capacity determined by the acceptance test."

The proposed change is based on IEEE Standard 450, "IEEE Recommended Practice for Maintenance, Testing, and Replacement of Large Lead Storage Batteries for Generating Stations and Substations." This standard allows the performance discharge test to be performed either in the 'as-found' condition or after battery 'grooming,' which includes equalizing the battery and cleaning the battery connections. Although the standard was used as a reference for the current Technical Specification and Bases, the wording of the bases could be interpreted that testing is only done in the as-found condition.

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

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