Indian Point 3
Nuclear Power Plant
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New York Power Authority

Robert J. Barrett
Site Executive Officer

May 16, 1997
IPN-97-065

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

Subject: Indian Point 3 Nuclear Power Plant
Docket No. 50-286
License No. DPR-64
Technical Specification Required Report;
Inoperability of the Wide Range Plant Vent Noble Gas Radiation Monitor

Dear Sir;

This letter provides a 14-day Special Report in accordance with Indian Point 3 Technical Specification Table 3.5-4, Note 3 for the Wide Range Plant Vent Monitor R-27. This radiation monitor, which provides noble gas activity monitoring of the plant vent for normal operation and during hypothetical post-accident conditions, was declared inoperable on May 5, 1997. This special report describes the cause of inoperability, subsequent actions taken, and our plans and schedule for restoring the system as required by the Technical Specification.

Cause of inoperability:

Inoperability was caused by a loss of digital communication between the instrument controller, located on the digital radiation monitoring panel in the control room and the microprocessor assembly, located on the 33-foot elevation of the control building. The radiation monitor was not restored to service during the seven-day period specified in Note 3 of Technical Specification Table 3.5-4 due to the time required for electronic troubleshooting of the microprocessor assembly.

Subsequent actions taken:

The Authority implemented the Technical Specification required pre-planned alternate sampling / monitoring capability for this condition. Indication from an alternate low range plant vent noble gas radiation monitor (R-14) and data from an alternate plant vent flow transmitter (ELL1) are being used to meet the effluent monitoring requirements of the Indian Point 3 Radiological and Environmental Technical Specification Table 2.2-1. Procedure RE-CS-040, "Sampling Containment Atmosphere and Plant Vent During Accident Conditions," is in place to satisfy the requirement of Technical Specification Table 3.5-4. The equipment manufacturer was contacted for assistance in restoring the monitor to service.

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Plans and schedule for restoration:

Troubleshooting efforts have identified a failed circuit board in the microprocessor assembly for the radiation monitor. The Authority expects to restore R-27 to service by May 31, 1997 and will update this report by June 9, 1997 if restoration by that date is not accomplished.

The commitment made by the Authority with this letter is stated in Attachment I. If you have any questions regarding this matter, 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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LIST OF COMMITMENTS

Number	Commitment Description	Due Date
IPN-97-065-01	Update Special Report to NRC for Technical Specification Table 3.5-4, Note 3 if Plant Vent Monitor R-27 is not returned to service by May 31, 1997.	June 9, 1997