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KESSNER,J. Affiliation Not Assigned
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JOHNSTON,W. Region 1, Ofc of the Director

SUBJECT: Requests verification re thickness of facility torus.

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WIXT

August 3, 1989

Mr. William Johnston
Division of Reactor Safety
USNRC - Region 1
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

Dear Mr. Johnston:

I want to verify the thickness of the torus at Nine Mile One in Oswego. Recent tests show the torus is corroding faster than thought (earlier readings done by NES and NMPC indicated it was corroding slower than thought).

In talking with people, I understand the company is now going back and re-examining its assumptions on the original thickness of the torus. I'm told if they use the minimum original number, corrosion rates will appear less. Did the company base its original corrosion rates on the maximum original thickness? If not, what number did they use?

With the torus corroded to the point where you've ordered six month readings, I feel it is essential to know the exact thickness of the torus in addition to its corrosion rate. I would also like to know the full range of readings taken on the torus from December 1987, to the present.

Also, what is your reason for not ordering the Mark I modifications adopted by the Commission in July to be done to the Nine Mile One plant while it is in this extended outage? With Nine Mile One's torus thinner than the majority of Mark I's (see your letter to me dated August 12, 1988), it would seem the plant would be a prime candidate for hard vents.

Could you also let me know how the Oyster Creek plant shored up its torus and how effective you feel this has been. Could the same fix work at Nine Mile One?

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jean Kessner

CC: Peter Bradford

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