



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

June 8, 1993

Ms. Cynthia L. Tully, Chairperson  
BWR Owners Group  
c/o Southern Nuclear Operating Company  
P.O. Box 1295, Bin B052  
Birmingham, Alabama 35201

Dear Ms. Tully:

SUBJECT: CLOSURE OF NRC STAFF ACTION 2.c RESULTING FROM INVESTIGATION OF  
THE AUGUST 13, 1991, EVENT AT NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION,  
UNIT 2 (NUREG-1455)

The purpose of this letter is to advise the BWROG of the results of the evaluation of NRC Staff Action 2.c resulting from the NRC Incident Investigation Team's (IIT's) investigation of the event at Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit 2, on August 13, 1991. A common-mode loss of five uninterruptible power supplies resulted, in part, in the loss of rod position indication (RPI) during that event. The IIT observed that the loss of RPI required the operators to enter the anticipated transients without scram contingency procedures and complicated their response to the event. Staff Action 2.c was established as a result of this observation and required the staff to evaluate the need for alternate RPI or for providing safety-grade power for the existing RPI for BWRs.

The staff met with the Regulatory Guide 1.97 Committee of the BWROG on December 9, 1992, in an effort to obtain the industry's position on the need for alternate RPI or for providing safety-grade power for the existing RPI for BWRs. By letter dated February 24, 1993, the BWROG subsequently provided the staff with a report, GENE-637-02-0292, "Position on Use of the Rod Position Information System for Post-Accident Monitoring," for the staff's use in addressing Staff Action 2.c.

On May 24, 1993, the staff completed its evaluation of Staff Action 2.c. We concluded that failure of RPI and the Neutron Monitoring System may complicate plant recovery and result in unnecessary operator actions. However, the staff agreed with the BWROG that the current Emergency Procedure Guidelines provide adequate guidance for incorporation in the Emergency Operating Procedures to direct the operator to take appropriate action without compromising plant safety. The staff also concluded that it would not be appropriate to require an alternate RPI system or safety-grade power for the existing RPI for BWRs.

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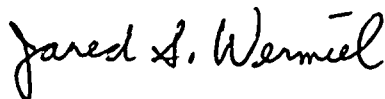
Ms. Cynthia L. Tully

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June 8, 1993

We appreciate the BWROG's assistance in providing input for our consideration in addressing Staff Action 2.c.

Sincerely,



Jared S. Wermiel, Chief  
Instrumentation and Controls Branch  
Division of Reactor Controls  
and Human Factors  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation



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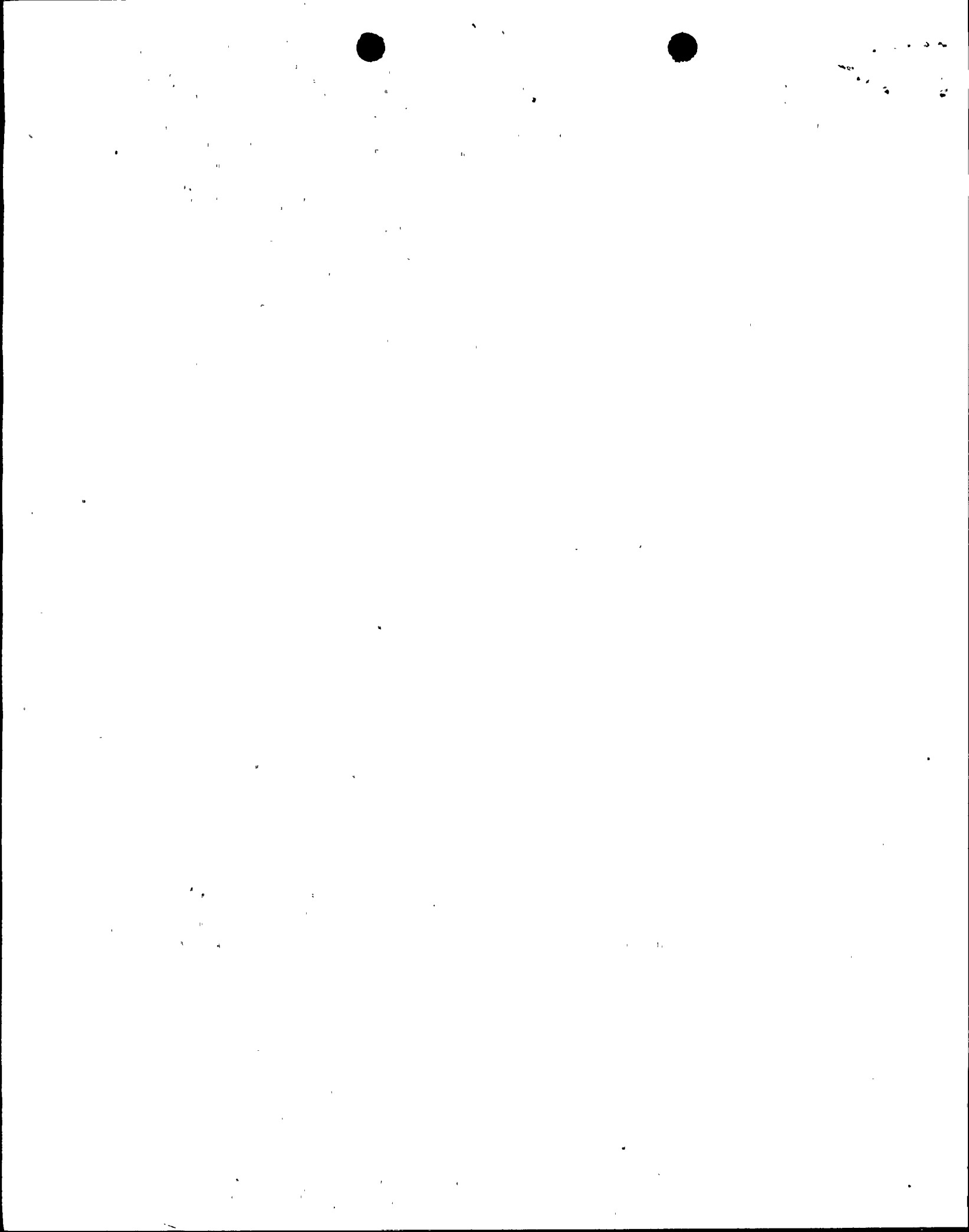
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