



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

June 6, 1996

Kevin P. Donovan
Centerior Energy
Perry Power Plant
MC A210
P. O. Box 97
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SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO THE BOILING WATER REACTOR
(BWR) EMERGENCY PROCEDURE GUIDELINES (TAC NOS. M89489 AND M89629)

Dear Mr. Donovan:

The staff has completed its review of: (1) your submittal transmitted by letter (BWROG-94038) dated March 21, 1994, requesting our approval of proposed modifications to the BWR Emergency Procedure Guidelines (EPGs) (NEDO-31331) to address reactor core instabilities; and (2) the Operations Engineering, Inc., (OEI) Document 9402-3, "The Management of ATWS by Boron Injection and Water Level Control," submitted by letter (BWROG-94111) dated September 16, 1994. OEI Document 9402-3 gives the analyses used by BWROG to justify its ATWS control strategy. The staff has also reviewed the BWROG submittal transmitted by letter (BWROG-95078) dated September 15, 1995, responding to the staff's request for comments on a draft safety evaluation report (SER). The draft SER was placed in the Federal Register for comment and copies were transmitted with an invitation for comment to other interested parties. The final SER, enclosed, reflects modifications made in response to BWROG and ACRS comments (no other comments were received) and defines the basis for the staff's acceptance of the proposed EPG modifications.

Both the staff and the ACRS agree that, for BWRs injecting standby liquid control through a standpipe below the core, maintenance of level above top-of-active fuel (TAF) is the superior water level control strategy in an anticipated transient without scram (ATWS) event. The staff recommends a level around TAF +5 feet (1.52 m), or as high as possible, while still maintaining the level at least 2 feet (0.61 m) below the feedwater sparger. Although control at any level between the minimum steam cooling water level and 2 feet below the feedwater sparger was found to be acceptable, both the staff and ACRS urge that a high-water-level control strategy be adopted. Additional details are contained in the enclosed SER.

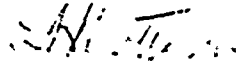
The staff is sending a copy of this letter and the enclosed SER to all BWR licensees and understands that all BWR licensees will revise their emergency operating procedures consistent with the approved modifications. The suggested implementation program contained in Enclosure 1 to the staff's September 12, 1988, letter to the BWROG transmitting the SER on NEDO-31331, Revision 4 remains applicable. The staff requests that the BWROG monitor the progress of implementation and inform the NRC of the number of plants completing implementation and the number selecting each water level option.

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The staff does not intend to repeat its review of the matters found acceptable, as described in the enclosed SER, on the proposed modifications for NEDO-31331, except to ensure that the material presented is applicable to the specific plant involved.

In accordance with procedures established in NUREG-0390, "Topical Report Review Status," the staff requests that the BWROG publish an accepted revision of this report within three months of receipt of this letter. The accepted revision should incorporate this letter and the enclosed Safety Evaluation, including the attached technical evaluation report. The accepted revision should include an -A (designating accepted) following the report identification designation.

Sincerely,



David B. Matthews, Chief
Generic Issues and Environmental
Projects Branch
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 691

Enclosure: As stated

cc: see attached list

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