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SHERWOOD,G.G.	General Electric Co.
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AHEARNE,J.F.	Commission

SUBJECT: Requests participation at Commission 800626 meeting on hydrogen control. Substantial hydrogen generation effectively prevented in BWR due to design features.

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GENERAL ELECTRIC

NUCLEAR POWER
SYSTEMS DIVISION

GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY, 175 CURTNER AVE., SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA 95125

Honorable John F. Ahearne, Chairman
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Dr. Ahearne:

This letter is to request participation by General Electric at the meeting of the Commissioners tentatively scheduled for June 26, 1980 on hydrogen control. It is our understanding that the NRC will present a recommendation to require immediate inerting of Mark I and II containments. It is General Electric's intent to present a brief statement on the Staff's conclusions and our recommendations.

General Electric believes that substantial hydrogen generation is effectively prevented in a BWR due to its unique inherent design features. Accordingly, inerting BWR Mark I and II containments is unnecessary and is not recommended due to its risks to plant personnel and reduction in operational safety.

Considering the low probability of inadequate core cooling for the BWR, GE believes that some reasonable amount of time should be spent in the deliberate process of rulemaking in evaluating hydrogen control measures. We are concerned that the Staff is recommending prescriptive measures before criteria is established for hydrogen control in all nuclear plants.

Please contact the undersigned regarding the disposition of and arrangements for the participation of General Electric at this upcoming meeting.

Very truly yours,



Glenn G. Sherwood, Manager
Safety and Licensing Operation

cc: Commissioner Bradford
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