

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

October 29, 1993

Docket Nos. 50-387 and 50-388

Mr. Robert G. Byram
Senior Vice President-Nuclear
Pennsylvania Power and Light
Company
2 North Ninth Street
Allentown, Pennsylvania 18101

Dear Mr. Byram:

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO GENERIC LETTER 92-08, "THERMO-LAG 330-1 FIRE BARRIERS,"

SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2 (PLA-3944) (TAC

NOS. M85613 AND M85614)

By letter dated April 15, 1993, you provided a response to Generic Letter (GL) 92-08 for the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station (SSES), Units 1 and 2. Your response states that the Thermo-Lag 330-1 fire barriers utilized at SSES were qualified to existing NRC guidance and/or commitments at the time of qualification. You noted that the actual testing was not in all cases conducted by Pennsylvania Power and Light Company (PP&L).

Although Thermo-Lag barriers were evaluated and may have been considered qualified, the results of recent tests and inspections indicate that further actions are now necessary to address fire endurance and ampacity derating of Thermo-Lag barriers. Your response states that appropriate actions to resolve these concerns are being developed through an industry program coordinated by NUMARC and you would apply the results of the industry program, when completed, to the Thermo-Lag 330-1 installations at SSES. Compensatory measures for inoperable barriers are in place and will remain in place until the fire barriers can be declared operable. Your response to GL 92-08, however, did not provide a schedule by which corrective actions would be completed.

In your response to GL 92-08, you indicated that the actions necessary to restore (or confirm) the operability of these barriers will be based on the results of the NUMARC program. The staff expects that licensees referencing the NUMARC program will review the results, and, within 30 days after the completion of the program, inform the NRC of the actions necessary and the schedule for restoring the operability of these fire barriers.

You also stated that you intend to perform SSES specific fire resistance testing in addition to supporting the NUMARC program. However, you advised us that this program is on hold awaiting development of a test acceptance criteria by the NRC. In accordance with the reporting requirements of GL 92-08, you are to confirm, in writing, completion of the corrective actions.

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The information requested by this letter is within the scope of the overall burden estimate in Generic Letter 92-08, which was an average of 300 person-hours for each addressee's response. This request is covered by Office of Management and Budget Clearance Number 3150-0011, which expires June 30, 1994.

Sincerely, Original signed by Richard J. Clark

Richard J. Clark, Senior Project Manager

Project Directorate I-2

Division of Reactor Projects - I/II Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page

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Mr. Robert G. Byram Pennsylvania Power & Light Company Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Units 1 & 2

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