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SUBJECT: Informs NRC of util intent to implement direct approach for Unit 2 Cycle 9. Revised COLR, containing core flow dependent MCPR operating limits based on direct approach, will be issued on or about 980212.

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U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION
UNIT 2 CYCLE 9 MCPR ANALYSES
PLA-4843 **FILE R41-2**

Docket No. 50-388

- References:
- 1) PLA-4595, "Response to NRC Request for Additional Information on Siemens' Report EMF-97-010, Rev. 1," March 27, 1997.
 - 2) Letter from C. Poslusny (NRC) to R. G. Byram (PP&L), "Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Unit 2 (TAC NO. M97499)," May 7, 1997.

During the NRC review of the Susquehanna Unit 2 Cycle 9 reload submittal, PP&L provided responses to NRC questions (Enclosure B to Reference 1) relating to the flow dependence of the Siemens Power Corporation (SPC) ANFB critical power correlation for the SPC ATRIUM™-10 fuel. PP&L's response to Question 1 of Reference 1 discussed two approaches for the development of Minimum Critical Power Ratio (MCPR) Operating Limits to account for this flow dependence. The approach referred to as the indirect approach in Reference 1 is a very conservative representation of the flow dependence of the ANFB correlation for SPC ATRIUM™-10 fuel and was used in development of Minimum Critical Power Ratio (MCPR) Operating Limits for initial startup and power operation of Susquehanna Unit 2 Cycle 9. The approach referred to as the direct approach in Reference 1 is also a conservative representation of the ANFB flow dependence but required computer code modifications which could not be completed to support initial startup and power operation. The NRC approved both of these approaches specifically for the Susquehanna Unit 2 Cycle 9 application (Reference 2).

In the Reference 1 response, PP&L stated our intent to implement the direct approach during Susquehanna Unit 2 Cycle 9 operation to improve thermal margins and committed to inform the NRC of the implementation of the direct approach prior to the issuance date of the revised Susquehanna Unit 2 Cycle 9 Core Operating Limits Report (COLR). The purpose of this letter is to inform the NRC of PP&L's intent to implement the direct approach for Susquehanna Unit 2 Cycle 9. A revised COLR, containing Core Flow Dependent MCPR Operating Limits based on

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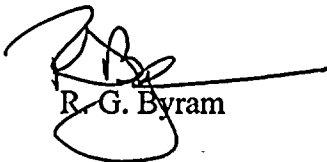


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the direct approach, will be issued on or about February 12, 1998. PP&L will transmit this revised COLR to the NRC following issuance per our normal transmittal process.

This letter is for information only. Therefore, PP&L is not requesting NRC action in response to this letter. Any questions regarding this letter should be directed to Mr. A. J. Roscioli at (610)-774-4019.

Sincerely,



R. G. Byram

copy: NRC Region I
Mr. K. Jenison, NRC Sr. Resident Inspector
Mr. V. Nerses, NRC Sr. Project Manager

