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ACCESSION NBR:8411050270 DOC.DATE: 84/10/30 NOTARIZED: NO DOCKET # FACIL:50-244 Robert Emmet Ginna Nuclear Plant, Unit 1, Rochester G 05000244 AUTH.NAME AUTHOR AFFILIATION KOBER.R.W. Rochester Gas & Electric Corp. RECIP.NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION ZWOLINSKI,J. Operating Reactors Branch 5

SUBJECT: Advises that addl Tech Spec re leak test of containment purge/vent valves unnecessary, based on previous operating experience.No existing purge valve will serve as containment isolation valve following Spring 1986.

NOTES:NRR/DL/SEP 1cy. 0L:09/19/69 05000244

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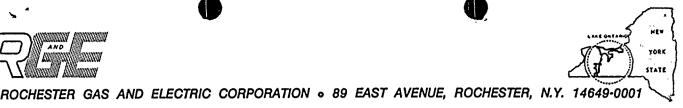
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ROGER W. KOBER VICE PRESIDENT ELECTRIC & STEAM PRODUCTION

TELEPHONE AREA CODE 716 546-2700

October 30, 1984

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation Mr. John Zwolinski, Chief Attention: Operating Reactors Branch No. 5 U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555

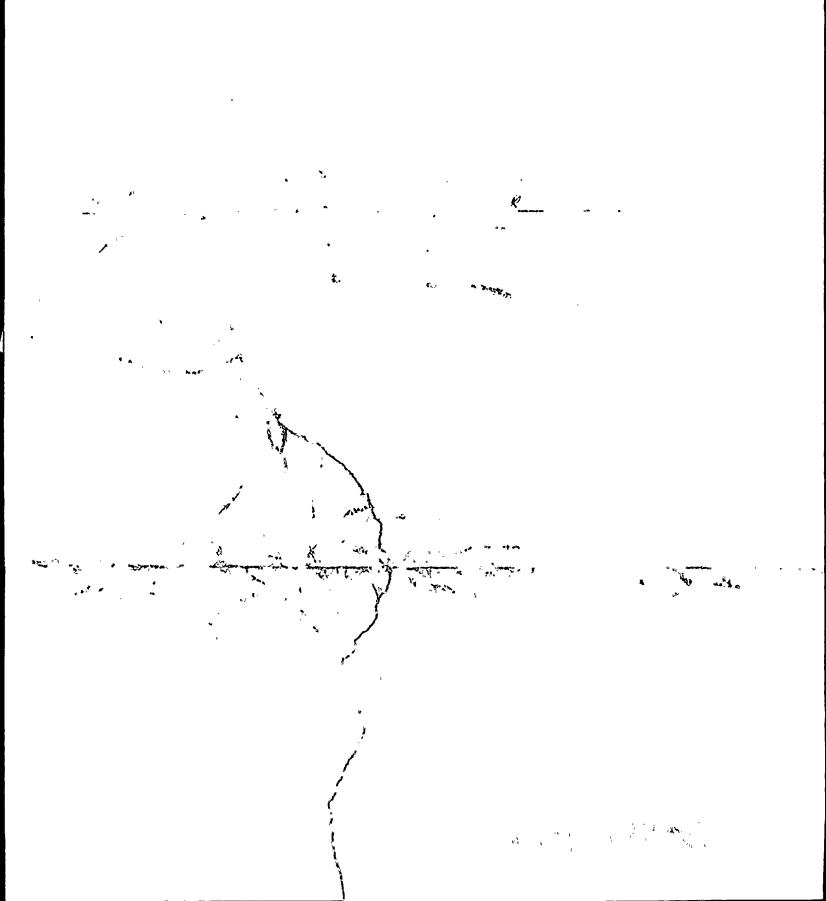
Subject: Containment Purge and Vent R. E. Ginna Nuclear Power Plant Docket No. 50-244

Dear Mr. Zwolinski:

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This letter is in response to a letter dated June 21, 1984 from Dennis M. Crutchfield, USNRC, which transmitted a Safety Evaluation regarding the Generic Issue on Containment Purge and Vent Operation. The letter requested that we propose a Technical Specification requiring leak testing of the containment purge/vent valves at intervals not to exceed six months or to propose an As discussed below, we do not believe that any alternative. additional Technical Specifications are necessary at this time.

Leak test data for the containment purge valves for the last 2 1/2 years were reviewed to determine causes for any previous excessive leakage and to predict long-term performance of the purge valves. It has been concluded that the only occurrences of excessive leakage were after the valves had been opened for purging following reactor shutdown and cooldown to cold shutdown. It has been postulated that leakage was due to the cooldown of the -containment atmosphere as a result of preparations for the annual refueling outage. On the other hand, once the purge values were closed prior to startup from the outlage / the test data demonstrate that successful operation with acceptably yow leakage is maintained throughout the annual operating (cycle with no repairs or adjustments being necessary. For example, following startup in 1982, acceptable results were obtained in testing performed on selected valves in August and October, /1982 and in January 1983. Following closure of the valves with acceptable leak tightness prior to startup from the 1983 outage; testing was next performed in April 1984, thus demonstrating the acceptable performance throughout that operating cycle. Thus' there is no evidence that the Ginna purge valves will not meet the leakage requirements throughout the annual operating cycle.



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ROCHESTER GAS AND ELECTRIC CORP. DATE October 30, 1984 то Mr. John Zwolinski

An additional factor which supports our conclusion to not submit a proposed Technical Specification at this time relates to our current plans for upgrading the containment purge/vent system. Since our original submittals, in which we anticipated a replacement with upgraded and qualified purge valves, we have concluded that a minipurge system, employing 6" valves, would provide a more cost effective approach. We have also tentatively decided to replace the purge supply and exhaust valves which are inside containment with blank flanges. Since it is our intention to provide these flanges with a double seal; it would no longer be necessary to rely on the outer valves for containment isolation. During cold or refueling shutdown, the flanges could be removed and the outer valves would be relied upon for refueling integrity. We currently expect to complete the design in order to support modifications during the 1986 refueling outage. The proposed change in the current purge configuration would involve a change in Technical Specification Table 3.6-1. Consistent with other penetrations, we anticipate proposing an annual test cycle for the minipurge penetrations and the flange double seals.

In summary, based on previous operating experience and based on the fact that the existing purge valves will not serve as containment isolation valves following the Spring 1986 outage, prior to which only one test would be performed as a result of the requested Technical Specification, we do not believe that a proposed Technical Specification is necessary at this time.

Very truly yours,

Fruillonnor Fri Roger W. Kober

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