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FACIL:50-244 Robert Emmet Ginna Nuclear Plant, Unit 1, Rochester G 05000244
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RECIP.NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
CRUTCHFIELD,D. Operating Reactors Branch 5

SUBJECT: Discusses steam generator sleeving eddy current exam.Util pursuing improvements in techniques w/goal of improving sensitivity by mixing frequencies for unwanted signal suppression & alternate probe designs.

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June 14, 1983

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

Subject: Steam Generator Sleeving Eddy Current Examination
R. E. Ginna Nuclear Power Plant
Docket No. 50-244

Dear Mr. Crutchfield:

As previously discussed, the eddy current examination of the expanded braze region of a steam generator sleeve is performed utilizing a multifrequency technique with a radially driven differential coil design probe. This technique has a sensitivity level that allows for the detection of, as a minimum, a 40% through wall defect on either the tube or the sleeve. Calibration for this examination has been performed on a 40% through wall x 0.1875 inch diameter flat bottom hole. We believe this technique will also detect a 30% through wall defect in the sleeve as evidenced by the fact that the inspection identifies the evacuated braze rings. Due to the lower frequency used for the parent tube examination, there is minimum phase spread which makes exact depth determinations difficult, as previously reported.

After further discussions with members of your staff on examination sensitivity, we would like to document the fact that we are pursuing improvements in our techniques with the goal of improving the sensitivity. This includes looking at mixing frequencies for unwanted signal suppression, alternate probe designs to affect the same result, and improved interpretation methods (e.g., digitalization). It is our intention that the improved technique would be used for inspection at our next refueling outage. If the mixing or improved interpretation technique is the method selected for improving sensitivity, then the method will be used with the data from the inspection of the upper joint of brazed sleeve tubes from the current outage to provide a baseline. We will notify you of the results investigation prior to our next scheduled refueling outage.

Very truly yours,

John E Maier

John E. Maier

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