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SUBJECT: Advises of coordinated efforts of util owners of near-term BWRs. Utils will define common licensing issues & work toward consensus position which, when accepted by NRC, will expedite closure.

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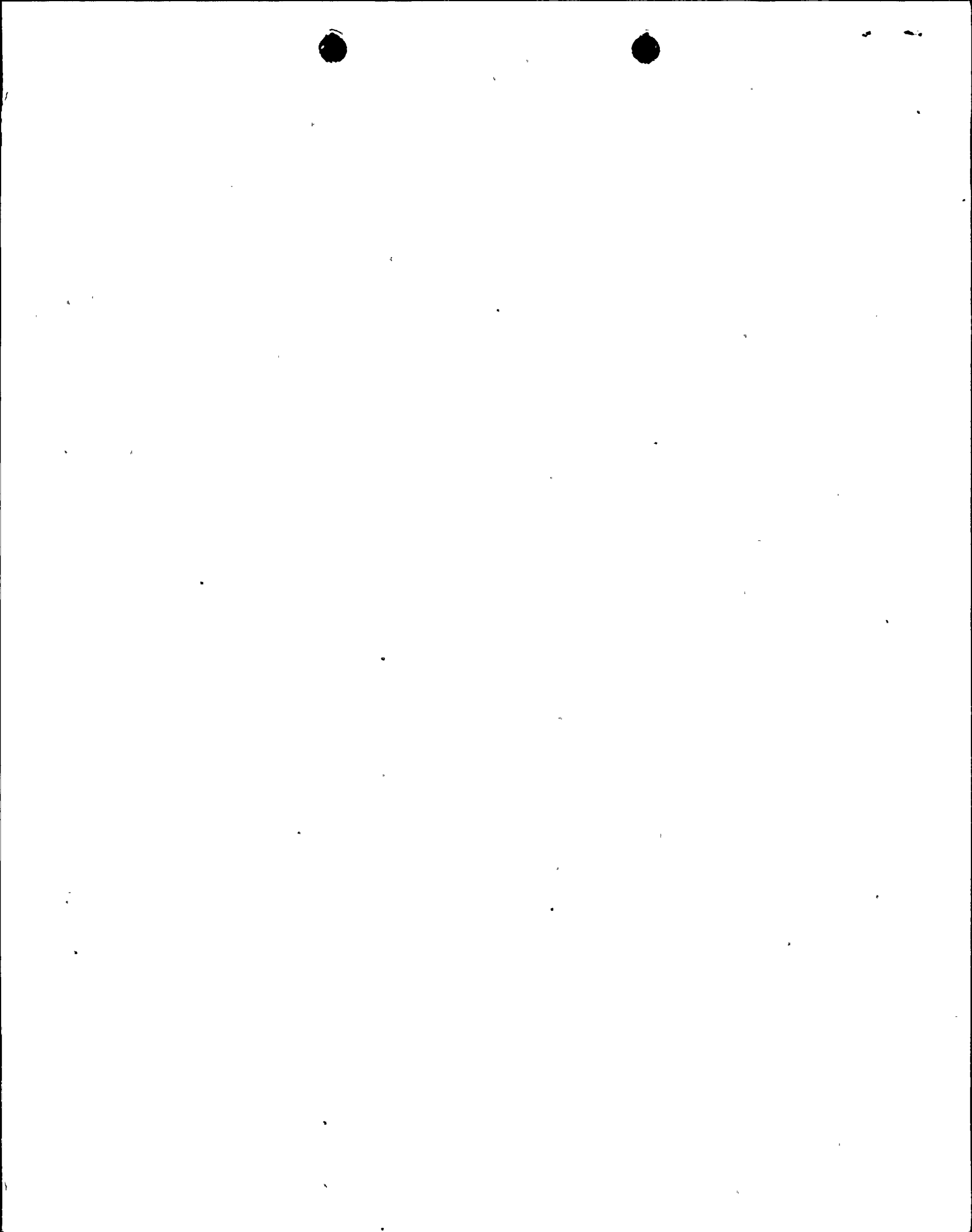
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May 7, 1980

Mr. H. R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Subject: BWR-NTOL Licensing Assessment

Dear Mr. Denton:

The purpose of this letter is to advise you of the efforts undertaken by the utility owners of near-term boiling water reactors (BWR's) to expedite the licensing of these units. This effort is proceeding with the support of Commonwealth Edison Company (LaSalle County), Cincinnati Gas & Electric Company (Zimmer), Detroit Edison Company (Fermi-2), Long Island Lighting Company (Shoreham), Pennsylvania Power & Light Company (Susquehanna), and Washington Public Power Supply System (Washington Nuclear).

As was discussed with Messrs. D. Eisenhut and D. Ross of your staff on May 1, 1980, it is the intention of the aforementioned group of utilities to engage in a coordinated effort to clearly define common licensing issues and to develop to the extent possible a consensus position which, when determined by your staff to be adequate, would be accepted by the NRC on each of the participating plant dockets as the basis for closure of the issue. This program of coordinated utility review and uniform regulatory response will, we believe, not only conserve technical resources and stabilize the license review process, but also expedite the closure of issues.

This program will demand close coordination both by the involved utilities and the NRC. For this reason we have engaged a consultant in Washington, DC to serve as a full-time liaison between the individual utilities as well as the NRC. Your staff has also identified a lead project manager through whom common issues can be discussed and resolved. In addition, I shall act as the chairman of the executive committee of this group, and Mr. L. O. DelGeorge of my staff will serve as the licensing coordinator for the utilities involved.

Although we are committed to promoting the effectiveness of this group, we must express the caveat that the program's viability is as much dependent upon your staff's ability to efficiently review utility positions and effectively implement agreements once reached

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Commonwealth Edison

Mr. H. R. Denton, Director
May 7, 1980
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as it is dependent upon us to reach a consensus position. In this regard, we must emphasize at the outset that all issues are not amenable to solution by consensus and that as hard as we may try, consensees may not be achievable on certain other issues. However, it is both our hope and commitment to promote uniform utility response to common issues wherever possible.

At this time we are attempting to finalize plans for a meeting in mid-May, 1980 with your staff to review all outstanding BWR issues. We encourage your support for this meeting as well as this group approach to licensing on the BWR-NTOL plants.

If you have any questions or comments, I encourage you to contact me.

Very truly yours,



Cordell Reed
Vice-President

cc: Messrs. E. Borgman - Cinninnati Gas & Electric Co.
N. Curtis - Pennsylvania Power & Light Co.
W. Jens - Detroit Edison Co.
R. Renberger - Washington Public Power Supply System
A. Wofford - Long Island Lighting Company
Dr. G. Sherwood - General Electric Co.

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