

July 10, 1998

David A. Lochbaum
Union of Concerned Scientists
1616 P Street, NW., Suite 310
Washington, D.C. 20036-1495

Dear Mr. Lochbaum:

The purpose of this letter is to document our telephone conversation on Thursday June 25, 1998. The purpose of the telephone conversation was to provide an update of the NRC staff actions concerning the 10 CFR 2.206 Petition filed by the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS) on October 9, 1997, concerning the D.C. Cook nuclear power plants and the addendum to the Petition submitted on January 12, 1998. The telephone conversation also served to provide clarification of certain issues raised in the Petition and the Addendum. Also discussed during the phone conversation were issues raised in UCS letters dated January 6 and January 15, 1998.

The enclosure to this letter provides the specific details of the issues discussed. If the clarifications of any of the issues discussed in the telephone conversation are not as you understand them or if you have any questions concerning an issue, please call me at (301) 415-1345.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:
John F. Stang, Sr. Project Manager
Project Directorate III-3
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-315 and 50-316

Enclosure: As stated

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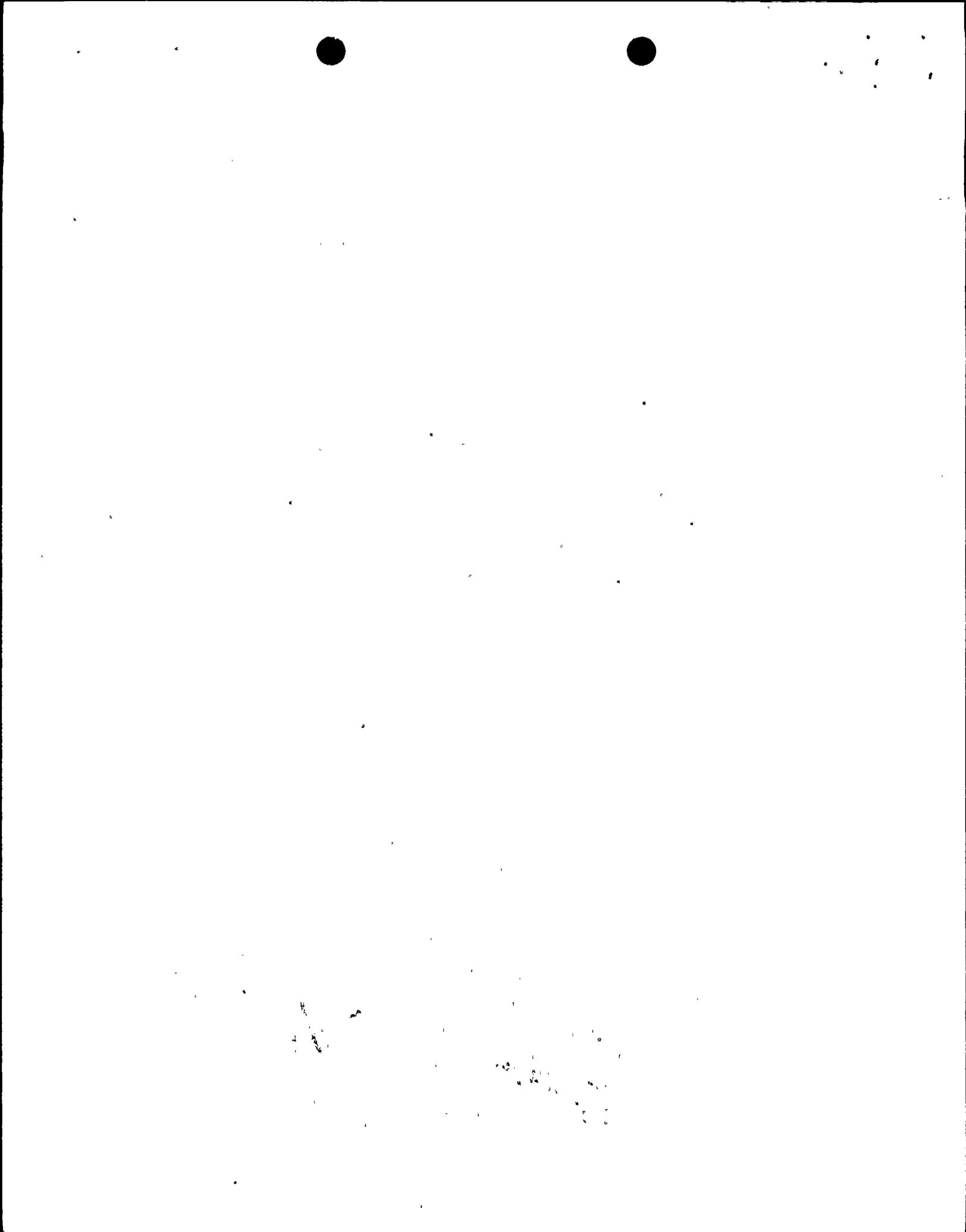
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DATE	7/7/98		7/7/98		7/10/98		7/18/98
OFFICE	RII		RIII		Alleg Coord		
NAME			By <i>Thome Clayton</i> Brent Clayton		JLee <i>J. Lee</i>		
DATE	1/98		7/9/98		7/9/98		1/98

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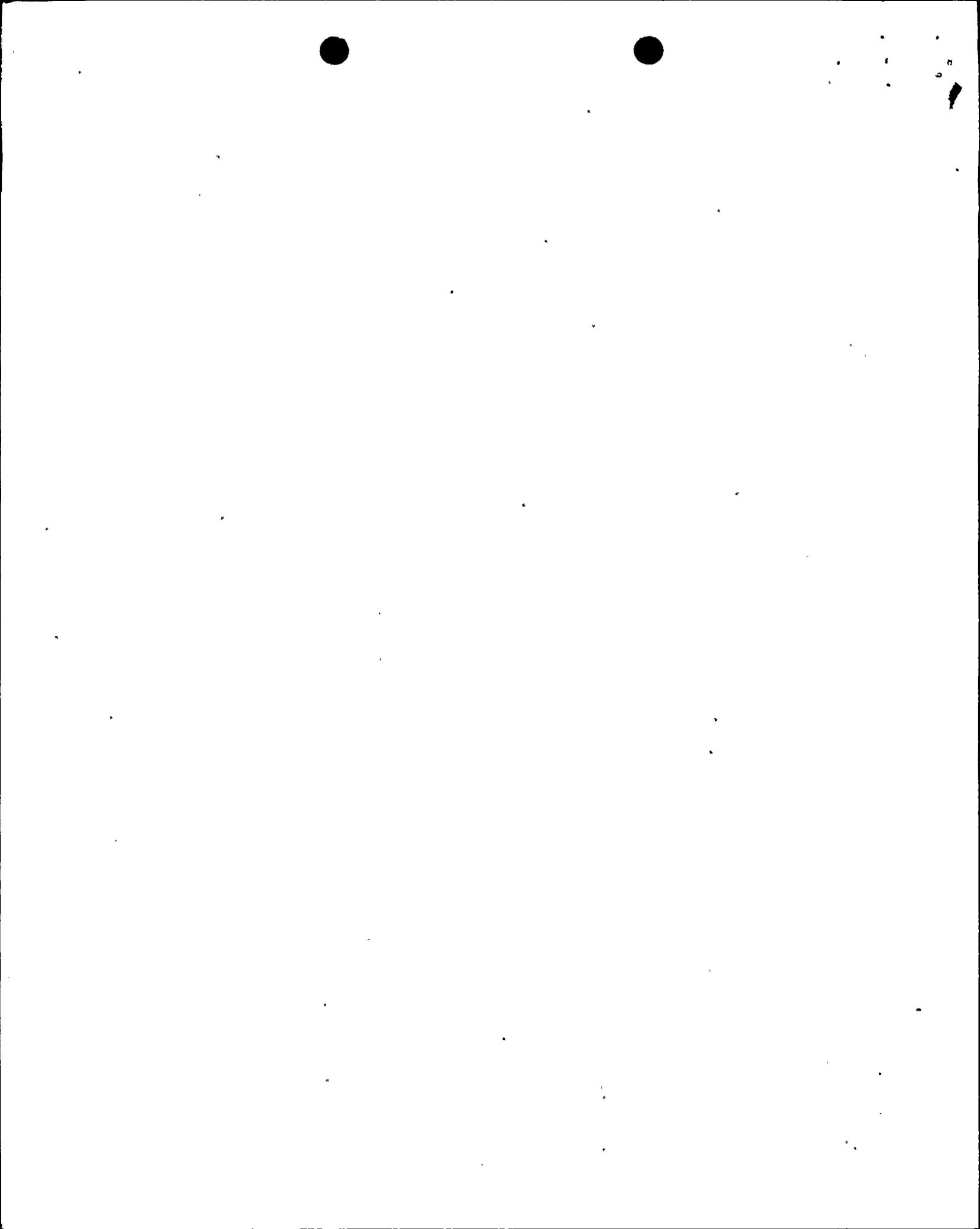
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NAME	JStang		EBarnhill EB		RBellamy mm		JFStang
DATE	7/1/98		7/7/98		7/10/98		7/18/98
OFFICE	RII		RIII		Alleg Coord		
NAME			By phone Brent Clayton		JLee		
DATE	1/98		7/9/98		7/9/98		1/98

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John F. Stang, Sr.".

John F. Stang, Sr. Project Manager
Project Directorate III-3
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-315 and 50-316

Enclosure: As stated

CLARIFICATION OF ISSUES CONCERNING
UNION OF CONCERNED SCIENTISTS 10 CFR 2.206 PETITION

October 9, 1997, letter (containing original 10 CFR 2.206 Petition)

On page 4 of the letter, under requested actions, UCS requested that no D.C. Cook unit be allowed to restart until there was reasonable assurance that "all" significant noncompliances have been identified and corrected. Mr. Stang asked Mr. Lochbaum what was meant by the sentence and by the word "all." Mr. Lochbaum responded by saying that the requested action of the October 9, 1997, UCS 10 CFR 2.206 Petition was better stated in the first paragraph on page 1 of the letter. Mr. Stang also asked if the acknowledgment letter dated December 9, 1997, from the NRC to the UCS accurately reflected the concerns contained in the October 9, 1997, UCS 10 CFR 2.206 Petition. Mr. Lochbaum stated that it did.

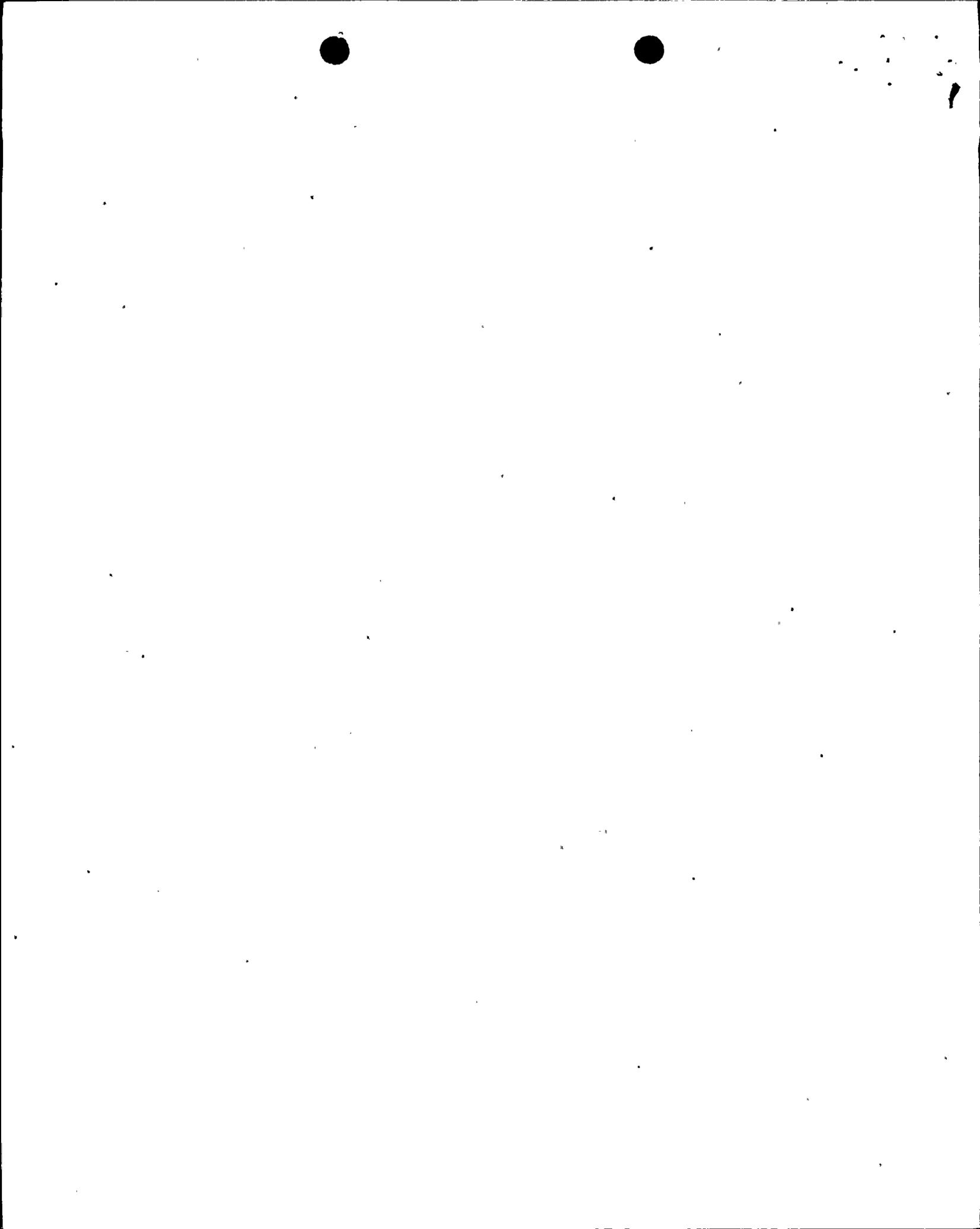
January 6, 1998, letter (public hearing on D.C. Cook)

The January 6, 1998, letter from the UCS to the NRC protested the fact that the original request for a public hearing contained in the October 9, 1997, letter from the UCS was not going to be granted. Mr. Stang stated that because of the new information provided by the UCS in their January 12, 1998, letter, NRC was evaluating the information to determine if the criteria for an informal public hearing had been met.

January 12, 1998, letter (addendum to the 10 CFR 2.206 Petition)

The January 12, 1998, letter raised the following six additional concerns:

- (1) Concerns were raised whether or not the ice condenser at the D.C. Cook Nuclear Power Plant had problems similar to those identified at the Watts Bar Nuclear Power Plant. Specifically concerns were raised about problems with bay doors and ice basket components. Also, concerns were raised about the configuration and testing of the ice condensers at the Watts Bar Nuclear Power Plant and the D.C. Cook Nuclear Power Plant. The January 12, 1998, letter also raised concerns that various licensees and the vendor were aware of the many problems with ice condensers; however, these issues were not properly reported to the NRC.
- (2) Concerns were raised about the licensee's 50.59 process. The addendum raised questions as to whether or not the licensee had reviewed a sufficient number of 50.50 safety evaluations, performed under the old 50.59 process, to determine if unidentified safety problems still remained at D.C. Cook.
- (3) Concerns were raised about the scope of the licensee's review of engineering calculations and the NRC assessment of that review.
- (4) Concerns were raised about the missing or inaccurate net positive suction calculations for safety-related pumps.



- (5) Concerns were raised about the accuracy of the licensee's, February 6, 1997, response to the NRC request for information pursuant to 10 CFR 50.54(f).
- (6) Concerns were raised with the adequacy of the NRC's inspection process.

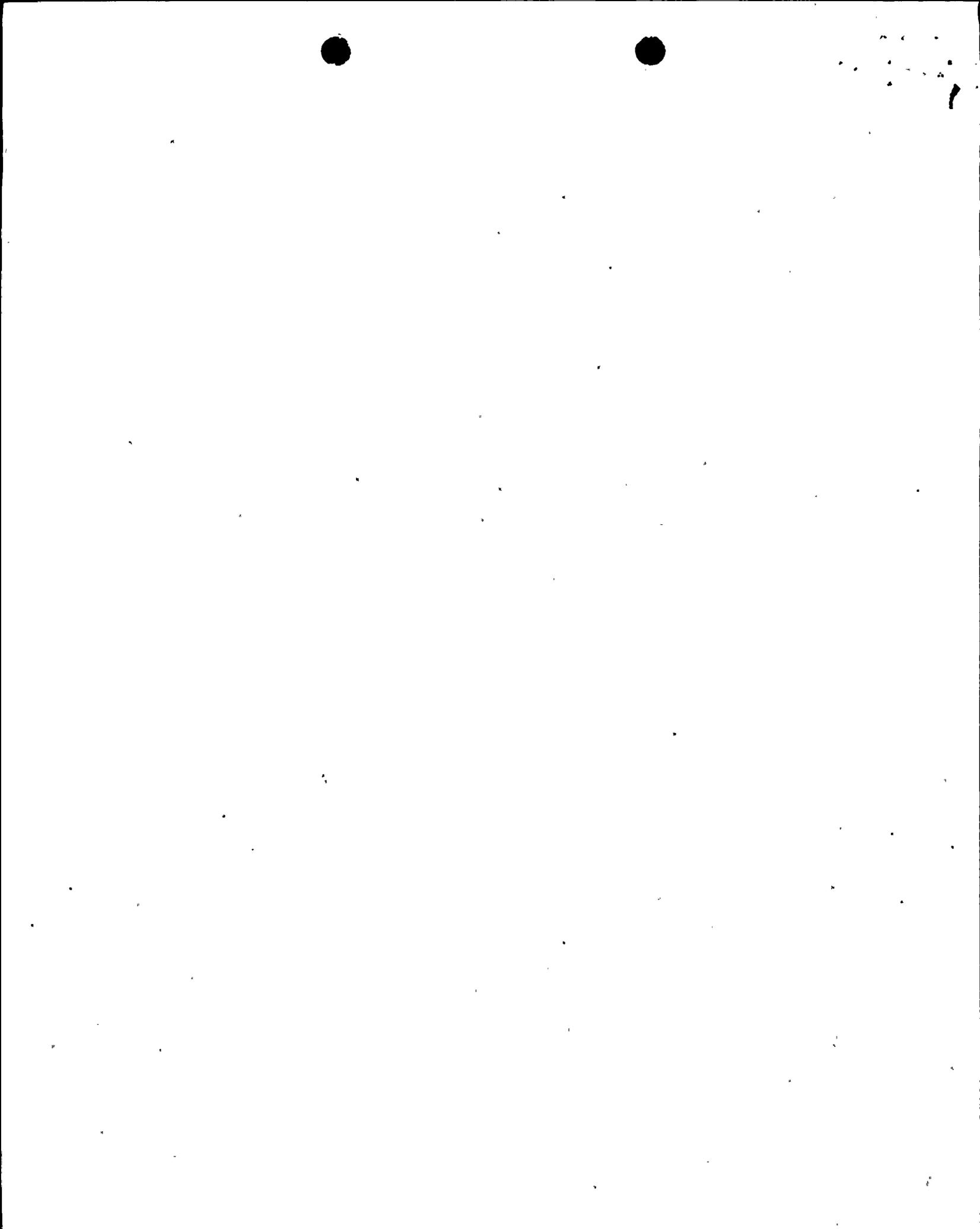
By letter dated January 27, 1998, the NRC Region III Office acknowledged the receipt of the concerns discussed in the UCS letter of January 12, 1998. The January 27, 1998, letter stated that the specific issues related to D.C. Cook Nuclear Power Plant would be reviewed under the allegation review process by the NRC Region III Office and that issues concerning the Watts Bar and McGuire Nuclear Power Plants would be reviewed as allegations by the NRC Region II Office. In addition, the Westinghouse reportability issues would be reviewed as an allegation by the NRC Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR). The January 27, 1998, letter also acknowledged that the UCS raised concerns with the NRC inspection program and the 10 CFR 2.206 process and indicated that these issues would be evaluated and a response would be sent to the UCS from NRR.

By letter dated February 23, 1998, NRR also acknowledged the receipt of the January 12, 1998, letter from the UCS and indicated that any issue specific to D.C. Cook would be addressed in the Director's Decision concerning the UCS October 9, 1997, 10 CFR 2.206 Petition. In addition, the February 23, 1998, letter indicated that since the concerns raised about the NRC inspection process and the 10 CFR 2.206 process were not directly related to the concerns raised in the UCS October 9, 1998, 10 CFR 2.206 Petition, these two concerns would be addressed in a separate letter.

Mr. Stang stated that to avoid confusion and the potential duplication of effort concerns 1 through 5 above as they relate to D.C. Cook will be evaluated and the documentation on the resolution of the issues will be included in the Director's Decision in response to the October 9, 1997, UCS 10 CFR 2.206 Petition. Mr. Stang also stated that the NRC would not be providing documentation of the resolution of the same issues through the allegation process as previously stated in January 27, 1998, separate letter from the NRC Region III Office to the UCS. In addition, Mr. Stang stated that he would be the Commission's point of contact for these issues. Mr. Lochbaum agreed with this position.

Mr. Stang stated that all other issues in concern 1 above not related to the D.C. Cook Nuclear Power Plant will be evaluated through the allegation review process. The documentation of the issues to the UCS will be provided in a letter separate from the Director's Decision. In addition, Mr. Stang stated that he was the Commission's point of contact for these issues and any documentation to the UCS concerning these issues would be generated by Mr. Stang with input from appropriate NRC Offices.

The January 12, 1998, letter raised concerns with the 10 CFR 2.206 process and the NRC inspection program. Mr. Stang stated that these concerns will be evaluated by NRR and transmitted to the UCS in a separate letter. Again Mr. Stang stated that he was the Commission's point of contact for these issues. Mr. Lochbaum agreed with this arrangement.



January 15, 1998, letter (requesting a copy of the follow up Architect-Engineering Inspection Report)

Mr. Stang asked Mr. Lochbaum if the UCS had received a copy of the requested inspection report. Mr. Lochbaum stated that the UCS had received a copy of the report and all issues in the January 15, 1998, letter were considered closed.

