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 FACIL: 50-387 Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Unit 1, Pennsylv 05000387
 50-388 Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Unit 2, Pennsylv 05000388
 AUTH. NAME: CURTIS, N.W. AUTHOR AFFILIATION: Pennsylvania Power & Light Co.
 RECIP. NAME: DENTON, H.R. RECIPIENT AFFILIATION: Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
 PARR, O.D. Auxiliary Systems Branch

SUBJECT: Urges early generic review of reactor sys transient analysis code. Util is committed to payment of proportionate share of review fee. Outlines intended uses of code.

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PP&L

TWO NORTH NINTH STREET, ALLENTOWN, PA. 18101 PHONE: (215) 821-5151

April 29, 1980

Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director
 Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
 Attn: Mr. Olan D. Parr, Chief
 Light Water Reactors Branch No. 3
 Division of Project Management
 U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
 Washington, DC 20555

Docket No.: 50-387
 50-388
 Construction Permit: CPPR-101
 CPPR-102

Dear Mr. Denton:

The Pennsylvania Power and Light Company (PP&L) is actively developing a safety and transient analysis capability to support the operation of our Susquehanna Steam Electric Station (SSES), currently under construction. An essential part of this development is the reactor system transient analysis code, RETRAN, which is being developed under the sponsorship of the Electric Power Research Institute. Because of its importance to our in-house program, PP&L has joined with other utilities in requesting a timely review of RETRAN by the NRC, and issuance of an associated Safety Evaluation Report. (The RETRAN generic review request was transmitted to you by letter dated October 22, 1979 from Stanley Ragone, Virginia Electric and Power Company President.) Because of our interest in this effort, PP&L is committed to paying a proportionate share of the NRC review fee, which we understand is approximately \$20,000.

PP&L intends to use the RETRAN code to obtain a better understanding of reactor transients, to support operator and reactor engineering training programs, and to perform plant-specific analyses to supplement vendor performed generic analyses. We anticipate using our "unqualified" RETRAN model of the Susquehanna units during their initial startup (currently expected to begin in mid-1981) to perform pre-test predictions and post-test analyses of selected startup tests. We plan to document the comparisons between our RETRAN model and plant startup test data in the form of a topical report, covering our RETRAN methodology for Susquehanna.

We believe that an early generic review of the RETRAN code would lead to an overall improvement in reactor safety by enhancing a utility's knowledge of reactor behavior during transients and postulated accidents, by providing an independent verification of vendor supplied safety analyses, and by encouraging the development of utility technical staffs trained in safety and transient analysis. We would be pleased to discuss our plans with you in more detail.

Very truly yours,



N. W. Curtis, Vice President
 Engineering & Construction

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