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October 5, 1979

Dr. D. F. Ross, Jr., Director
Bulletins & Orders Task Force
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

- References: (1) Letter, D. F. Ross, Jr. to T. D. Keenan, "Additional Information Required for NRC Staff Generic Report on Boiling Water Reactors," August 23, 1979
- (2) Letter, M. W. Carbon to J. M. Hendrie, "Pipe Cracking in Light Water Reactors," August 16, 1979

Dear Dr. Ross:

Reference (1) transmitted eleven questions from the Bulletins & Orders Task Force to be answered by the BWR Operating Plant Owners Group. Eight of these dealt with the effect of a direct current power source failure; three of them dealt with the effects of pipe cracking.

The requested response date was September 14, 1979, with a request that W. F. Kane of your staff be contacted if the date could not be met. In a September 6, 1979, meeting with Mr. Kane, it was agreed that the responses would be provided by September 28, 1979. As you will recall, we agreed by telephone on September 27, 1979, that the responses would be delayed until October 7, 1979, due to the intensive industry effort to respond to I&E Information Notice 79-22.

This letter is to advise that the responses to all of the subject questions except the second question dealing with pipe cracking were transmitted to you today by General Electric. The concern of pipe cracking is considered beyond the scope of the Three Mile Island activities of this Owners Group. There is a reactivated BWR Owners Group which will be addressing the issue of primary system integrity including the concern of intergranular stress corrosion cracking, as raised by Question No. 2 of your letter. This newly formed Owners Group has also requested an opportunity to address the ACRS in October on this same matter. We believe our position as stated above responds adequately to your question at this time and look to the newly formed Owners Group to pursue the issue in depth.

If you have any questions regarding this submittal, please contact me.

Sincerely yours,

T. D. Keenan, Chairman
BWR Operating Plant Owners Group

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