



UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20545

AUG 29 1972

Mr. James F. Mallay
Manager, Licensing
Nuclear Power Generation
Babcock & Wilcox
P. O. Box 1260
Lynchburg, Virginia 24550

Dear Mr. Mallay:

We have been advised that Babcock & Wilcox (B&W) is preparing topical reports concerning (1) the assessment of damage to the Oconee Unit 1 reactor internals due to flow induced vibration, (2) the redesign of the reactor internals of B&W reactors to reduce flow induced vibration and (3) the vibration predictions and monitoring equipment for the Oconee Unit 1 vibration testing program. Because these reports are an essential element of our evaluation of applications for operating licenses for several facilities, i.e., Oconee Nuclear Station Units 2 and 3, Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit 1, Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 1, and Rancho Seco Nuclear Generating Station, we will need these topical reports on or before September 15, 1972. If you are unable to comply with this schedule, it is likely that the overall schedule for completing the licensing review for these projects will have to be extended.

Because B&W has designated Oconee Unit 1 as the prototype reactor for vibration measurements, the results of these Oconee Unit 1 measurements will affect a number of facilities. If Oconee Unit 1 is not properly established as an acceptable prototype, another facility will need to be established as a prototype or each specific facility will need to perform a complete program of vibration testing as defined in Safety Guide 20, "Vibration Measurements on Reactor Internals", before any licensing action can be completed. Due to the number of projects potentially affected, we believe it prudent to consider contingency plans at this time. Please inform us of your proposed course of action in the event that you are not able to establish the Oconee Unit 1 as an acceptable prototype.

Please contact us if you desire any discussion or clarification of the material requested.

Sincerely,

R. C. DeYoung
R. C. DeYoung, Assistant Director
for Pressurized Water Reactors
Directorate of Licensing

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