



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

NOV 26 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR: Steve Scott, Acting Chief
Distribution Services Branch, ADM

FROM: D. G. Eisennut, Acting Director
Division of Operating Reactors

SUBJECT: LACROSSE BOARD NOTIFICATION - LIQUEFACTION POTENTIAL

Please forward the enclosed material to the LaCrosse Board.

D. G. Eisennut, Acting Director
Division of Operating Reactors

Enclosures:

1. Evaluation of Attached Material
2. 10/25/79 Memo
3. 10/19/79 Letter
4. Dames & Moore Inc. Report

cc w/encl 1 & 2:

S. Varga
E. Christenbury
J. Shea
L. Nichols

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DISTRIBUTION OF BOARD NOTIFICATION

LA CROSSE

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Appeal Board
Atomic Safety and Licensing
Board Panel
Docketing and Service Section
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EVALUATION OF ATTACHED MATERIAL

Subject: Liquefaction Potential at the LaCrosse Site

- Attachments:
1. Memorandum from R. Jackson to D. Crutchfield
October 25, 1979
 2. Letter from F. Brown to J. Knight
October 19, 1979
 3. Dames and Moore Report

The staff has not completed its review of the licensee's investigation of the liquefaction potential at the LACBWR site. The results of the investigation to date by the licensee are contained in the attached report prepared by Dames and Moore, Inc. for Dairyland Power Cooperative. Based on the review to date, the staff concludes that:

1. If sustained strong ground motion occurs with peak accelerations of 0.12 g or higher, liquefaction can occur down to a depth of about 40 feet.
2. Based on evaluations to date, there is a relatively low seismic hazard at this site because of the earthquake history.
3. There is low seismic hazard for the facility during the period required to complete the staff's evaluation of the SEP seismic methodology and to establish the seismic design bases for LaCrosse.

On October 17, 1979, and November 2, 1979, the staff met with Dairyland Power Cooperative (DPC) and their consultants to discuss the liquefaction issue at the LACBWR site. DPC and their consultants, Dames and Moore, made a presentation in support of their conclusion that no liquefaction would occur for an SSE less than 0.18g. The staff and its consultant, the Corps of Engineers, concluded that liquefaction could occur at the site for an SSE of 0.12g.

The staff informed DPC that they would have to take positive steps to resolve this concern (by dewatering or other methods). DPC agreed to submit their proposed program to address this concern by November 30, 1979. The staff believes that the seismic hazard at the site is low enough to permit continued operation while the staff and licensee resolve the questions related to the appropriate seismic design basis and the appropriate remedial action to reduce the potential for liquefaction.

The staff believes that this information is relevant to the ongoing LaCrosse FTL review. This material is submitted for information purposes to the Board.

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