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

MAY 1 7 1979

Mr. John Thomson 148 Arlangton Street Hyde Park, MA 02136

Dear Mr. Thomson:

Thank you for your letter commending our orders of March 13, 1979, to shut down five nuclear power plants in the eastern United States because of questions about the ability of their piping systems to withstand earthquakes. Our objective is to review the situation in an expedited and disciplined manner so that these plants can be returned to operation with assurance that this will not constitute a threat to the public health and safety.

Sincerely,

Harold R. Denton, Director

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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