

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

May 15, 1979

Docket No. 50-344

Mr. Charles Goodwin, Jr. Assistant Vice President Portland General Electric Company 121 SW Salmon Street Portland, Oregon 97204

Dear Mr. Goodwin:

Enclosed for your information is a copy of a letter sent to one of the licensees of a Westinghouse two loop plant. A similar letter has been sent to the licensees of the other Westinghouse two loop plants. Note that the use of the rod bank exchange program has not yet been approved for other than these two loop plants.

Sincerely,

A. Schwencer, Chief Operating Reactors Branch #1

Division of Operating Reactors

Enclosure: As Stated

cc: See next page

cc: Mr. H. H. Phillips Portland General Electric Company 121 S.W. Salmon Street Portland, Oregon 97204

> Warren Hastings, Esquire Counsel for Portland General Electric Company 121 S.W. Salmon Street Portland, Oregon 97204

Mr. J. L. Frewing, Manager Generation Licensing and Analysis Portland General Electric Company 121 S.W. Salmon Street Portland, Oregon 97204

Columbia County Courthouse Law Library, Circuit Court Room St. Helens, Oregon 97501

Director, Oregon Department of Energy Labor and Industries Building, Room 111 Salem, Oregon 97310

Richard M. Sandvik, Esquire Counsel for Oregon Energy Facility Siting Counsel and Oregon Department of Energy 500 Pacific Building 520 S.W. Yamhill Portland, Oregon 97204

Michael Malmrose U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Trojan Nuclear Plant P. O. Box 0 Rainier, Oregon 97048



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

May 15, 1979

Docket No. 50-305

Mr. Eugene R. Mathews, Vice President Power Supply and Engineering Wisconsin Public Service Corporation P. O. Box 1200 Green Bay, Wisconsin 54305

Dear Mr. Mathews:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has reviewed information submitted by the Westinghouse Corporation and two licensees of two loop plants regarding the use of the rod bank exchange (rod swap) method to verify shutdown margin for two loop Westinghouse nuclear steam supply systems. Based on our review, we approve the use of this method as an alternative to the boron exchange method of verifying shutdown margin for these two loop NSSSs providing the following conditions are met:

- The analysis for predicting rod worths and shutdown margin is performed by Westinghouse using the technique proposed to the NRC at the September 1978 meeting.
- 2. All rod banks are measured.
- 3. Written approval is obtained from the NRC prior to use of the rod exchange method. Approval will be based on NRC review of your review and acceptance criteria for these rod exchange tests. Once we approve your review and acceptance criteria, they need not be resubmitted unless changed.
- The test procedure for this method is that identified in a Westinghouse letter to NRC dated April 24, 1979.

7906250191

7906250191

Mr. Eugene R. Mathews - 2 -

 Within 45 days after the first verification of shutdown margin using the rod bank exchange method, the test data is formally submitted to the NRC.

This approval is only for plants with a two loop NSSS. Additional information and further review will be required before we can reach a conclusion on the use of this method for three and four loop plants.

Sincerely,

A. Schwencer, Chief Operating Reactors Branch #1 Division of Operating Reactors

Oliventer

cc: See next page