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

May 21, 1979

Sheldon J. Wolfe, Esq., Chairman Atomic Safety and Licensing Board U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555

Dr. David R. Schink Department of Oceanography Texas A & M University College Station, Texas 77840

Mr. Lester Kornblith, Jr. Atomic Safety and Licensing Board U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555

In the Matter of Offshore Power Systems (Floating Nuclear Power Plants) Docket No. STN 50-437

Gentlemen:

In the Staff's letter to you of May 2, 1979, the undersigned stated that the Staff expected to be able to file responses to the questions posed by the Board in its March 29, 1979 letter by May 21, 1979. Other priority matters, including the Three Mile Island incident, are again occupying the time of Staff members involved in responding to the Board's questions. Therefore, the Staff expects that there will be a further delay in responding to the Board's questions.

The Staff apologizes for this delay, which, under the circumstances, is unavoidable.

> Sincerely, gehe M. Sohile

Stephen M. Sohinki Counsel for NRC Staff

cc: Vincent W. Campbell, Esq. Dr. David L. Hetrick Docketing and Service Section Richard M. Hluchan, Esq. Anthony Z. Roisman, Esq. Mary M. Cheh, Esq. Barton Z. Cowan, Esq. Thomas M. Daugherty, Esq. Mr. John H. Williamson City of Brigantine

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