



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

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DEC 26 1979

Mr. Daniel Karpen  
3 Harbor Hill Drive  
Huntington, New York 11743

Dear Mr. Karpen:

Your letter of October 7, 1979, which enclosed some leaflets on the Shoreham Nuclear Power Station, has been referred to me for reply. We have reviewed these leaflets and have determined that none of the allegations that you underlined in red constitute sufficient bases for initiating a special investigation of the Shoreham facility.

Some of these matters are presently under review by the NRC staff and will be addressed in the staff's Safety Evaluation Report on the Shoreham Operating License Application. The matter of the papers that were discovered at the Southold dump has been addressed by the staff in a letter to the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board dated June 12, 1979.

With regard to the Mark II containment, new containment loads associated with a postulated loss-of-coolant accident were identified, in a General Electric testing program, which had not been explicitly included in the original design of Mark II containment. These loads result from the dynamic effects of drywell air and steam being rapidly forced into the suppression pool during a postulated loss-of-coolant accident event. Other previously unaccounted for pool dynamic loads result from the actuation of safety relief valves in the Mark II containment.

In view of the potential significance of these loads, we determined that a reassessment of the Mark II containment system design would be required. A program was developed to establish generic pool dynamic loads, load combinations and design criteria. The program consists of a number of experimental and analytical tasks. These tasks form the basis for establishing the generic Mark II pool dynamic loads. As a result of our review of the Mark II pool dynamic loads, we issued the "Mark II Containment Lead Plant Program Load Evaluation Report (NUREG-0487)" which contains our acceptance criteria for pool dynamic loads. The Shoreham containment design must meet our criteria in order to be licensed.

Further information on the Shoreham facility can be obtained by visiting the local public document room at the Shoreham-Wading River Public Library, Route 25A, Shoreham, New York 11786.

Sincerely

Steven A. Varga, Acting Assistant Director  
for Light Water Reactors  
Division of Project Management

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