NOTE FOR R. C. DEYOUNG

COMMENT ON DOPCHIE LETTERS

An evaluation, including recommendations on the Dopchie problem, was made by H. Faulkner of 'R-4 and identified to a note of February 7, 19/2. These recommendations were: 1) that the Westinghouse LOCA evidence be reviewed by an ECCS expert, 2) that DRL conduct a review to insure purge valve closure, and 3) that we reply to the latest Dopchie Letter based upon presently available information. These recommendations still stand today.

In reviewing the proposed reply to Dopchie, F. Schroeder raised questions about a failure of the pressurizer manway and isolation of the containment building. The Vestinghouse reply stated that primary protection for the core is provided by the accumulators for break sizes of 6 inches equivalent diameter and greater and that no clad damage is expected. Extrapolation from 6 inches to the size of a manway is severe enough to suggest further confirmation from Vestinghouse. We share the concern about containment isolation and have identified previously that a more thorough review of this sequential events type of accident while purging should be undertaken.

We have received three letters from Dopchie and have previously replied to the first two. The intent of this letter is to provide him with the best information presently available with respect to his concerns, and to politely turn off this continuing back and forth correspondence.

If further technical evaluation is Judged necessary prior to replying to Dopchie, I suggest that the evaluation and reply be assigned to the appropriate Vestinghouse branch. Because of the coincident pressurizer pressure-pressurizer level aspect of the postulated accident, it is unique to Vestinghouse plants. Special expertise for the LOCA and containment isolation aspects may be required from other branches such as the Reactor Systems Branch of DRL.

I hope this information will clear up the background for forwarding a reply to Dopchie at this time. Copies of the Westinghouse reply to the Dopchie related question for the Kewaunes application and of the February 7, note of H. Faulkner are enclosed with the material following the Background Tab.

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Original Signed by

A. Schwencer PWR-4 Division of Reactor Licensin

ec: H. Faulkner, DRL

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