

MAR 14 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR: Richard H. Vollmer, Acting Assistant Director for Systematic Evaluation Program, Division of Operating Reactors

FROM: Joseph F. Scinto, Deputy Director Hearing Division, Office of the Executive Legal Director

SUBJECT: Proposed Letter to Licensees on High Energy Line Pipe Breaks Inside Containment

We have no legal objection to the proposed letter, since it does not commit the Staff to a position that this combination of augmented inservice inspection and leakage detection will be found to be acceptable. As we noted in our memorandum of February 8, 1980, "Interpretation of General Design Criterion 4, 10 C.F.R. 50, Appendix A, Environmental and Missile Design Basis," we have not yet seen a sufficient technical basis to advise you whether the method proposed by the Staff for satisfying GDC 4 is legally sufficient.

We understand that you are working on this. We would be pleased to assist you to the extent that we reasonably can. I understand that you intended to hold this letter until a factually sufficient basis is developed. When this is done, some minor adjustment of this letter may be needed. Please let me or Mr. Cutchin know if there are any changes in your plans.

1/21

Joseph F. Scinto
Deputy Director Hearing Division
Office of the Executive Legal
Director

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iIRC Central
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Scinto
Cutchin
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SURNAME	Cutchin/dmr	Scinto				
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