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Arkansas Power & Light Company ATTN: Mr. J. D. Phillips Senior Vice President Production, Transmission, and Engineering Sixth and Pine Streets Pine Eluff, Arkansas 71601

Centlemen:

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In the summer of 1973 a significant number of hydraulic shock suppressors (snutbers) were found to be inoperable at many reactor facilities. The failures were caused by severe degradation of seal materials and subsequent leakage of hydraulic fluid. An extensive seal replacement program has been carried out which has significantly reduced the incidence of snubber failures. Powever, failures continue to occur.

Our review of snubber experience at reactor facilities indicates a need for technical specifications requiring snubber operability and surveillance. We have prepared model technical specifications and bases which will provide additional assurance of satisfactory snubber performance and reliability. A copy of these specifications is eaclosed. Since these were not prepared explicitly for your plant, some editing may be necessary in order to adapt them to the Arkansas Nuclear One - Unit 1 design and nomenclature.

You are requested to submit within 45 days from your receipt of this letter an application for amendment to your license that would change your technical specifications to be in conformance with the recuirements of the enclosed model technical specifications.

Sincerely,

## Original signed by

Dennis L. Ziemann

Bendis L. Ziemann, Chief Operating Reactors Branch #2 Division of Teactor Licensine

Inclosure: Ponel Technical Specifications

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