



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

Central File

May 16, 1978

Arkansas Power and Light Company
ATTN: Mr. William Cavanaugh III
Executive Director of Generation
& Construction
P. O. Box 551
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203

Docket Nos. 50-313
50-363

Gentlemen:

In 1977, NRC approved a revised inspection program that includes resident inspectors at selected reactor and major fuel facility sites. Enclosed is NUREG-0397 which briefly describes this revised program.

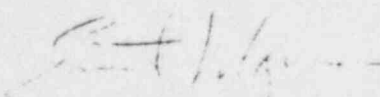
We are now taking steps to deploy twenty inspectors this summer. In our informal discussions with licensees last year we explored the problems of office space and access to plant sites. Most licensees offered to provide office space within their main office complex. We are now proposing a change to 10 CFR 50 and 70 (enclosed) which, if ultimately approved by the Commission, would require licensees to furnish office space to the NRC inspector. Similar requirements are imposed by other federal agencies.

As a licensee for a 1978 resident site, I am advising you of these proposed changes to the regulations to facilitate advance discussions with you concerning possible office space arrangements. Representatives from our Regional Office will make arrangements to meet with appropriate members of your staff to work out the details.

Aside from the office space, we do not expect the resident program to materially affect your site administration. The resident inspector still will report to the NRC Regional office and he will have the same authority and responsibility as any other NRC inspector.

In a two year trial program, licensees expressed preference for the frequent and more informed presence of an NRC resident inspector. We expect to learn a great deal about the administration of this program during the coming year. We encourage you and your staff to give us your views at any time.

Sincerely,


Ernst Volgenau
Director
Office of Inspection
and Enforcement

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