

UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION III  
799 ROOSEVELT ROAD  
GLEN ELLYN, ILLINOIS 60137

December 9, 1976

K. V. Seyfrit, Chief, Reactor Technical Assistance Branch  
Office of Inspection and Enforcement, Headquarters  
THRU: G. Fiorelli, Chief, Reactor Operations and  
Nuclear Support Branch

LEAK TESTING OF CONTAINMENT EQUIPMENT HATCH

During the review of the Davis-Besse program, it was determined that there were no regulatory requirements for the openings that occur subsequent to the integrated containment leak rate tests. The licensee's FSAR does state that a local leak rate test will be performed following each opening but no acceptance criteria is provided. (See attached memo from R. D. Martin.)

A review of the Technical Specifications for Point Beach 1/2, Zion 1/2, Prarie Island 1/2, and D. C. Cook indicates that only the Point Beach 1/2 Technical Specifications require the testing following the opening of the equipment hatch. The remaining Technical Specifications are mute on this point.

Appendix J also does not address the requirement to test following each opening unless you were to consider the opening a modification or replacement of the component as defined in Section IV A of Appendix J which appears to be stretching the point.

Since the seal of the equipment hatch could be a significant leakage path if they were damaged during closure, it is requested that I and E initiate action to modify the provisions of Appendix J to include the requirement for testing following each opening. If the equipment hatch does not have provisions for pressurizing between the seals, Appendix J should require a Class A test following each opening.

Because of the potential time span required in modifying Appendix J it is recommended that in the interim an I and E circular should be distributed to all facilities having equipment hatches. A proposed circular is attached for your use.



50-346  
M 4  
8002060723 Q

K. V. Seyfrit

- 2 -

December 9, 1976

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact  
R. D. Martin or myself.

*RC Knop*

R. C. Knop, Chief  
Reactor Projects Section 1

Attachment:

As stated

cc w/attachment:

B. H. Grier, IE:HQ

H. D. Thornburg, IE:HQ

G. W. Roy, IE:HQ

R. F. Warnick, Regional Coordinator

IE Files

Central Files

J. G. Keppler, Regional Director