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

October 22, 1980

Ms. Lynn Conner
Doc-Search Associates
P.O. Box 57
Cabin John, MD 20731

IN RESPONSE REFER
TO FOIA-80-506

Dear Ms. Conner:

This is in response to your letter dated October 6, 1980 in which you requested, pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, the guidelines used by the Load Forecast Panel which visited 22 sites to establish a model for construction completion.

The NRC has no documents subject to your request.

The methodology for predicting fuel load dates was not established during recent Caseload Forecast Panel visits. Essentially, it was established several years ago by using historical data contained in the NRC Construction Status Reports. (Yellow Book)

There exist no formal guidelines for the Forecast Panel. Each plant must be analyzed as a separate entity and plant visitations tailored to extract the information necessary to provide an independent assessment of the fuel loading date.

Some of the important variables include the manpower assigned to various tasks, the amount of electrical cable installed, the quantity of large bore piping in place, the number of electrical terminations made, the percentage of preoperational tests successfully performed, the cubic yards of concrete poured, etc. Because the plants are designed and constructed by different combinations of nuclear steam system suppliers, architect-engineers, and constructors, and because of individual site differences and differing work patterns and progress, no uniform set of guidelines can be prepared.

The basic technique used by the Forecast Panel involves getting plant specific data on what are felt to be the most important variables, comparing that data against the data in the Yellow Book and the data obtained in other applicable Panel visits. The Panel then independently establishes percent completion and a fuel loading date.

Sincerely,

J. M. Felton, Director
Division of Rules and Records
Office of Administration

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