



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

November 24, 1980

Docket No. 50-155
Plant Name: Big Rock Point
LS05-80-11-034



TO ALL POWER REACTOR LICENSEES WITH PLANTS
LICENSED PRIOR TO JANUARY 1, 1979

The Commission published on November 19, 1980 (45 FR 76602), a revised Section 10 CFR 50.48 and a new Appendix R to 10 CFR 50 regarding fire protection features of nuclear power plants. The revised Section 50.48 and Appendix R will become effective February 17, 1981, which is 90 days after publication. A copy of the Federal Register Notice is enclosed (Enclosure 1).

The provisions of Appendix R that are applicable to the fire protection features of your facility can be divided into two categories. The first category consists of those provisions of the Appendix that are required to be backfit in their entirety by the new rule, regardless of whether or not alternatives to the specific requirements of these Sections have been previously approved by the NRC staff. These requirements are set forth in Sections III-G, Fire Protection of Safe Shutdown Capability; III-J, Emergency Lighting; and III-O, Oil Collection Systems for Reactor Coolant Pump. The fire protection features of your facility must satisfy the specific requirements of these three Sections by the dates established by Paragraph 50.48(c), unless an exemption from the Appendix R requirements is approved by the Commission. You should note the provisions for tolling the time for completing the modifications required by these three Sections of Appendix R set forth in Paragraph 50.48(c)(6).

The second category of Appendix R provisions applicable to the fire protection features of your facility consists of requirements concerning the "open" items of previous NRC staff fire protection reviews of your facility. An open item is defined as a fire protection feature that has not been previously approved by the NRC staff as satisfying the provisions of Appendix A to Branch Technical Position BTP PCSB 9.5-1, as reflected in a staff fire protection safety evaluation report. The fire protection features of your facility that are in this category must satisfy the specific requirements of Appendix R by the dates established by Paragraph 50.48(c), unless an exemption from the Appendix R requirements on those features is approved by the Commission.

Enclosure 2 is a summary listing of the open items concerning the fire protection features of your facility based on a review of our records. Also included is our position on the specific requirements that must be satisfied in order to resolve these open items. If you have any questions or disagreements with this enclosure, please advise us within 30 days of your receipt of this letter.



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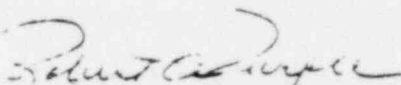
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With regard to the fire protection modifications that have been previously approved by the NRC staff, Paragraph 50.48(d) specifies a new schedule for their completion. This paragraph, when it becomes effective, will supersede the currently effective section of the regulations that temporarily suspends completion dates for previously approved fire protection modifications that are given in facility license conditions (45 FR 71569, October 29, 1980). The Commission expects that all such modifications will be completed in accordance with this new schedule, unless an extension has been requested and granted by the Director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation [see Paragraph 50.48(d)], or an exemption has been requested and granted by the Commission pursuant to Section 50.12 of the Commission's regulations.

If you have previously requested extensions of dates for completion of modifications that are required by license conditions for your facility which were not approved, and you have determined that these extensions are still necessary and justifiable, it will be necessary for you to reapply for any such extensions in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 50.48(d).

All requests for Commission action resulting from this rule are subject to the schedule of fees specified in 10 CFR 170.21. If you have any questions concerning the subject matters of this letter, please contact the NRC Project Manager for your facility.

Sincerely,


Darrell G. Eisenhut, Director
Division of Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosures:

1. Notice - Fire Protection Rule
2. Summary of Staff Requirements to Resolve Open Items

cc w/enclosures:
See next page

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