



**Consumers
Power
Company**

Regulatory

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General Offices: 212 West Michigan Avenue, Jackson, Michigan 49201 • Area Code 517 788-0550

December 29, 1976



Director, Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Att: Mr D L Ziemann
Chief, Operating Reactors Branch #2
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

DOCKET 50-155, LICENSE DPR-6 -
BIG ROCK POINT PLANT

This letter is in response to your letter of November 23, 1976 in which you requested information concerning fission gas releases from fuel pellets with high burnups at the Big Rock Point Plant. Due to shortness of time, we are not able to provide answers to all points discussed in your letter in the time frame requested.

With regard to rod burnups in excess of 20,000 MWd/MTU, a number of fuel rods in the Big Rock Point core have already exceeded that exposure. However, past fuel inspections of discharged fuel bundles with similar exposures have shown no adverse effects, such as clad ballooning, attributable to high exposures.

A response to Points b, c and d of your letter will be provided by January 20, 1977. This response will include: (1) A calculation of fission gas releases and internal pressures in Big Rock Point fuel based on the modified fission gas release model; (2) either a reanalysis of the loss of coolant accident assuming the modified fission gas release model, or justification for why a reanalysis is not necessary; and (3) an evaluation of the implications of operation with cladding tensile stresses. Item (3) will only be provided if rod pressures in excess of nominal system pressure (1350 psia) are predicted using the modified gas release model.

Ralph B. Sewell

Ralph B Sewell
Nuclear Licensing Administrator

CC: JGKepler, USNRC

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DESCRIPTION
LTR. RE. OUR 11/23/76 LTR...
REQUESTED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING THE
FISSION GAS RELEASES FROM FUEL PELLETS WITH HIGH
BURNUPS.....

(1 SIGNED (Y. RECEIVED)
(1 PAGE)

PLANT NAME: BIG ROCK POINT

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ACKNOWLEDGED

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