UNITED STATES OF AMERICA NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION 02/09/81 REGENTED FEB 10 1981 EDAMISSION FORMULSSION FORMULS FORMULSSION FORMULS FORMUL

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

In the Matter of

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NORTHERN INDIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY Docket No. 50-387 (Construction Permit Extension)

(Bailly Generating Station, Nuclear-1)

NRC STAFF RESPONSE TO PORTER COUNTY CHAPTER INTERVENORS' REQUEST TO ADMIT CONTENTION CONCERNING NIPSCO'S LETTER OF NOVEMBER 26, 1980

On January 27, 1981, the Porter County Chapter Intervenors (PCCI) requested the admission of a new contention, denominated Contention 13, concerning the Applicant's November 26, 1980 letter amendment of its construction permit extension request. The amendment in quescion extends the latest date requested for completion of construction until December 1, 1989. The amendment does not identify any additional reasons why the plant was not completed by the original completion date (September 1, 1979) set forth in the construction permit. Those reasons were advanced in the Applicant's February 7, 1979 initial extension application. Proposed contention 13 challenges the factors and assertions set forth in the amendment and the reasonableness of the extension date requested therein. The Staff opposes the admission of this contention.

The intervenors' pleading fails to address the factors contained in 10 C.F.R. § 2.714(a) relative to late-filed contentions. 1/ In any event, the introduction of the newly proposed contention is unnecessarily duplicative of previously admitted contentions. Specifically, PCCI contentions 1 and 3 were admitted by the Board for the proposition that "the reasons for the delay are other than offered by Permittee, that the actual reasons do not constitute good cause for the extension, and that the period of extension requested is unreasonable. 2/ As is evident, the reasonableness of the extension period requested, whatever its duration (now December 1, 1989), is already a matter in controversy and the justification therefore litigable within the context of existing contentions. Therefore, the admission of proposed contention 13 would serve no useful purpose.

Accordingly, the Staff opposes the admission of proposed Contention 13.

Respectfully submitted,

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Steven C. Goldberg Counsel for NRC Staff

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland this 9th day of February , 1981.

^{1/ 10} C.F.R. § 2.714(a)(3); Louisiana Power and Light Co. (Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3), LBP-73-31, 6 AEC 717, appeal dismissed as interlocutory, ALAB-186, 6 AEC 1155 (1973).

^{2/} Order Following Special Prehearing Conference, dated August 7, 1980, at 52.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

In the Matter of

NORTHERN INDIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY Docket No. 50-367 (Construction Permit Extension)

(Bailly Generating Station, Nuclear-1)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of NRC STAFF RESPONSE TO PORTER COUNTY CHAPTER INTERVENORS' REQUEST TO ADMIT CONTENTION CONCERNING NIPSCO'S LETTER OF NOVEMBER 26, 1980 in the above-captioned proceeding have been served on the following by deposit in the United States mail, first class or, as indicated by an asterisk, through deposit in the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's internal mail system this 9th day of February, 1981.

- *Herbert Grossman, Esq., Chairman Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555
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