May 18, 1981

The Honorable Alan Simpson, Chairman Subcommittee on Nuclear Regulation Committee on Environment and Public Works United States Senate Washington, D. C. 20510

U.S. MUCLEAR ESCULATORY COMMISSION

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed for the information of the Subcommittee on Nuclear Regulation is a copy of NUREG-0763, entitled, "Guidelines for Confirmatory Inplant Tests of Safety Relief Valve Discharges for BWR Plants." This report provides partial resolution of the NRC's Generic Technical Activity A-39, which has been identified as an "Unresolved Safety Issue" in the 1978 Annual Report pursuant to Section 210 of the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974. Also enclosed for your information is a Federal Register Notice we plan to issue on this matter within the next few days.

In July 1980, the staff issued the Safety Evaluation Report on the Mark I Containment Long-Term Program (NUREG-0661). In October 1978 and October 1980, the staff also issued the Mark II Containment Lead Plant Program Load Evaluation and Acceptance Criteria Report (NUREG-0487 and Supplement 1). These reports provide the staff's evaluation of the Mark I and Mark II owners groups' proposed methods for establishing safety/relief valve (SRV) loads, and other LOCA-related hydrodynamic loads. As a result of the evaluation, acceptance criteria for SRV loads and the maximum suppression pool temperature were established and presented in the reports. For Mark III containments, a safety evaluation report and acceptance criteria were also established and issued on July 16, 1976 (GESSAR 230 Nuclear Island, Docket No. STN-50-447).

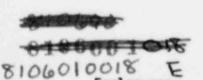
These acceptance criteria, however, are intended for generic application. Plants which have features that differ substantially from the data base used to establish the acceptance criteria for the SRV loads will be required to perform inplace tests. Guidelines for formulating appropriate test matrices, establishing test procedures, selecting necessary instrumentation, and reporting test results are presented in NUREG-0763.

Sincerely.

Original Signed by H. R. Benton

Harold R. Denton, Director Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Enclosures: 1. NUREG-0763

2. Federal Register Notice				TEMurley	EGVase 5//5/81
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A-39 File

## Identical Letters Sent To:

The Honorable Toby Moffett, Chairman Subcommittee on Environment, Energy and Natural Resources Committee on Government Operations United States House of Representatives Washington, D. C. 20515

The Honorable Morris K. Udall, Chairman Subcommittee on Energy and the Environment Committee on Interim and Insular Affairs United States House of Representatives Washington, D. C. 20515

The Honorable Richard L. Uttinger, Chairman Subcommittee on Energy Conservation and Power Committee on Energy and Commerce United States House of Representatives Washington, D. C. 20515

cc: Representative Joel Deckard

cc: Representative Manual Lujan

cc: Representative Carlos Moorhead

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