

OCT 27 1981



Mr. K. Meyer, Chairman
BWR Owners' Group
Iowa Electric Light & Power Company
P. O. Box 270
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406

Dear Mr. Meyer:

SUBJECT: NUREG-0737, Item II.K.3.25, "Effect of Loss of Alternating Current Power on Pump Seals "

By letter dated September 21, 1981 you supplemented the Owners' Group evaluation of NUREG-0737 Item II.K.3.25. Initially, by letter dated May 22, 1981, you indicated that a loss of cooling water to recirculation pump seals would result in a worst case seal leakage of 70 gpm. Your recent submittal described three tests which resulted in seal leakages of less than 5 gpm.

Two of the aforementioned tests were conducted on Byron Jackson pumps; the remaining test was run on a Bingham pump. The inference of your submittal is that all BWR's have either Byron Jackson or Bingham pumps. It would be appreciated if you would confirm this as well as provide a narrative describing the applicability of these tests to the various designs of each manufacturer.

Prior to the issuance of NUREG-0737 the General Electric (GE) Co. provided NEDO-24083, "Recirculation Pump Shaft Seal Leakage Analysis," dated November 1978. This topical report provided an analysis which essentially concluded that failed seals result in leakages of 65 gpm. This GE conclusion would appear to conflict with your recently submitted test results; i.e., the analysis is not verified by actual testing. Since clarification is felt to be necessary, the Owners' Group is requested to resolve this inconsistency.

Finally, in the fall of 1980 Niagara Mohawk Power Corp. requested approval of N-2 loop operation in order to install ATWS modifications. The requested approval for Nine Mile Point was granted. However, while modifications were accomplished, the licensee chose to shutdown the plant in lieu of idling loops. This decision was based upon a Byron

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Jackson recommendation to not idle recirculation pumps. The licensee has been requested to provide the basis for the Byron Jackson recommendation. Please be advised that final resolution of Item II.K.3.25 pends staff receipt and review of this information.

In order to assure timely resolution of this item, please provide your response within 60 days.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Ippolito, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #2
Division of Licensing

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- D. Crutchfield
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- T. Ippolito

Revision 1 concurred on by:

ORB#2	ORB#2	ORAB	
SNorris	PPolk:pob	DVerre11i	WHodges
10/21/81	10/21/81	10/21/81	10/21/81

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SURNAME	SNorris	PPolk:pob	DVerre11i	WHodges	Tippolito	
DATE	10/21/81	10/21/81	10/21/81	10/21/81	10/27/81	