



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

February 6, 1990

Docket No. 50-483

Mr. Donald F. Schnell
Senior Vice President - Nuclear
Union Electric Company
Post Office Box 149
St. Louis, Missouri 63166

Dear Mr. Schnell:

SUBJECT: TEMPORARY WAIVER OF COMPLIANCE FROM TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION
3/4.1.3, "MOVEABLE CONTROL ASSEMBLIES" (TAC NO. 74192)

By letter dated February 2, 1990, Al Passwater of your staff requested a temporary waiver of compliance for Callaway, Unit 1, from Technical Specification (TS) 3/4.1.3, relating to moveable control assemblies. In the letter, he stated that at approximately 2:05 p.m. CST on February 2, 1990, Callaway entered TS Action Statement 3.1.3.1.b as a result of an urgent failure alarm received during routine control rod motion testing. His letter also stated that the alarm was indicative of an electrical problem in the rod control system and that the control rods remain trippable.

Specifically, the February 2, 1990 letter requested an allowed outage time of 72 hours to resolve the problem prior to completing the action required by TS 3.1.3.1.b. The February 2, 1990 letter also stated that the evaluation justifying this request was previously submitted in a license amendment application dated August 2, 1989. That application and its supplement dated December 28, 1989 also requested a revision to TS 3/4.1.3 to allow continued operation for 72 hours with one or more control rod assemblies inoperable due to an electrical problem in the rod control system provided all affected control rods remain trippable.

We have reviewed the request for a temporary waiver of compliance and your application for amending TS 3/4.1.3 regarding moveable control assemblies. Based on this preliminary review, we conclude that the temporary waiver of compliance request is consistent with the license amendment application and, since the extension of the allowable outage time only applies to rods which remain trippable, assurance of the rod's primary safety function will not be impaired by granting the request. On this basis, we approve the request for a temporary waiver of compliance from the existing TS 3/4.1.3 to that proposed in

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Mr. Donald F. Schnell

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your application dated August 2, 1989 as supplemented by your letter dated December 28, 1989. This letter confirms the verbal waiver given by John N. Hannon on February 2, 1990, and remains in effect until the staff completes processing your license amendment application on an expedited basis. The staff expects to issue the amendment in about one week.

Sincerely,

/s/

John A. Zwolinski, Assistant Director
for Region III
Division of Reactor Projects - III,
IV, V and Special Projects
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Union Electric Company

Callaway Plant
Unit No. 1

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