

# Bechtel Power Corporation

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November 24, 1982

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Attention: Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director

Subject : 10CFR50, Appendix J

## References:

- (a) Letter, A.L. Cahn to H.R. Denton, subject as above, dated March 8, 1982.
- (b) Letter, R.J. Mattson to A.L. Cahn, dated April 8, 1982, response to reference (a).

Dear Mr. Denton:

Attached is a copy of a recently completed Bechtel study examining short duration Integrated Leakage Rate Testing methods. The objectives of the study were to demonstrate the conservatism in Bechtel Topical Report BN-TOP-1, Rev 1, November 1, 1972, and to show that it remains a valid document with which to conduct Integrated Leakage Rate Tests.

In the study, nine twenty-four hour tests were compared using BN-TOP-1 and the new ANSI/ANS 56.8-1981 methods. The conclusions are that BN-TOP-1 conducted short duration tests are very conservative compared to 24 hours tests.

This study is provided to you to assist in the ongoing NRC re-examination of its position on short duration testing. We feel it will prove to be a valuable document for your staff. We have sent a copy to the ANSI/ANS 56.8 Committee Chairman for information purposes, also.

Sincerely,

A.L. Cahn

Manager of Engineering

ALC:ntl

cc: Mr. Vic Stello Jr.  
Deputy Executive Director for Operations