

D.M.B-016

Docket No. 50-333

JUL 13 1981



Mr. George T. Berry
President and Chief Operating Officer
Power Authority of the State of New York
10 Columbus Circle
New York, New York 10019

Dear Mr. Berry:

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION OF UNRESOLVED SAFETY ISSUE A-10, BWR NOZZLE
CRACKING

By letter dated February 20, 1981, you provided information regarding implementation of guidance from NUREG-0619 at the James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant. NUREG-0619, issued by letter dated November 13, 1980, contained the NRC staff's resolution of Unresolved Safety Issue A-10.

We have reviewed your commitments included in the February 20, 1981 letter and have determined that your basic approach is satisfactory with respect to both the feedwater nozzle modifications and the control rod drive (CRD) hydraulic system modifications. However, clarification of one item and the submittal of additional information is required.

In your evaluation of the existing low flow controller, you should use the additional guidance sent to you in NRC Generic Letter 81-11 dated February 20, 1981. We request that you submit the results of this evaluation when it is complete.

With regard to the CRD modifications, we request that you commit in writing to accomplish each item of Paragraph 8.2(2) of NUREG-0619. This paragraph concerns rerouting of the CRD return line with continuous flow. Also, we have determined that your request for extension of CRD modification completion until Spring 1983 is satisfactory. However, the present guidance to be used for inspection methods and frequencies is contained in NUREG-0313, Revision 1, issued by letter dated February 26, 1981.

You should also be aware that continued operation with return flow valved out is the same as operating with the nozzle cut and capped with no rerouting of the return line. This latter option is covered in Paragraph 8.2(4) of NUREG-0619 and requires substantial additional testing, equipment modifications, and procedural changes. You should be aware of the changes in system operation that could ensue because of continued operation in this mode. We request that you submit information detailing your proposed methods of operation to avoid the potential problems during the interim period before modifications are completed.

Mr. George T. Berry

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You should submit the information requested above within 45 days of receipt of this letter.

Although similar requests for information have been, and will be, sent to other licensees regarding their implementation of NUREG-0619 guidance, each request is plant-specific and the effort required in response varies with the number of deviations from the NRC's guidance. Therefore the reporting requirements contained in this letter are considered to affect fewer than 10 persons and are required to obtain a benefit. Therefore the requirements are not subject to Office of Management and Budget clearance as required by P. L. 96-511.

Sincerely,

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

cc: See next page

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