I, Roby Bevan, being duly sworn, state that I am an employee of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). My present position is Operating Reactors Project Manager, Operating Reactors Branch #2, Division of Licensing within the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

The purpose of my affidavit is to respond to a contention having to do with corrosion of fuel rod cladding due to increased fuel storage and resultant increased temperatures in the pools. An exact statement of the contention and my response to that contention follows.

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Contention 1

Intervenors contend that the additional spent fuel assemblies which will be stored in the proposed high density spent fuel storage racks will increase the temperature of the spent fuel pool water and cause the cladding of the rods to corrode, thereby endangering the public health and safety.

Response to Contention 1

The temperature of the spent fuel pool water is maintained at about 95-100 F, except when newly discharged spent fuel is in the pool. During refueling the temperature can rise to 125-150 F due to increased decay heat from the newly discharged fuel. Within a week or two the decay heat rate is diminished such that the pool water temperature is again easily kept in the 95-100 F range.

These temperatures stated above are not maintained for reasons having to do with corrosion of fuel cladding, but are primarily for the comfort and safety of personnel working in the area. The temperatures indicated are easily held using only part of the presently installed spent fuel pool cooling capability. With the proposed increased spent fuel storage capacity, the heat load on the pool cooling capability will increase gradually over the years. Should the pool eventually be filled to capacity (the limiting case), the pool cooling capability that is presently installed will still be adequate to maintain pool water temperatures that are consistent with personnel comfort and safety. It is not expected that the pool temperature conditions will change significantly from those of the past as a result of the increased storage capability. Therefore, danger to the public health and

safety resulting from increased corrosion of fuel cladding as a result of increased pool water temperature is not a valid concern.

The above statements and opinions are true and correct to the best of my personal knowledge and belief.

Roby B. Bevan, Jr.

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 9th day of November, 1981.

Notary Public

My Commission expires: July 1, 1982