



EDWARDS  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON 20555

MAR 24 1973

Mr. James H. Taylor  
Manager, Licensing  
Babcock & Wilcox Co.  
Nuclear Power Generation  
Box 1260  
Lynchburg, VA 24505

Dear Mr. Taylor:

In your letter to me dated February 22 of this year responding to our request for information (refs 1, 2, and 3), you stated that Babcock and Wilcox is not prepared to commit to the work of generating such information. The reason stated was related to uncertainty of the NRC staff position regarding the method of combining seismic and LOCA loads. In my view, this is not a valid reason for delaying that work.

In accordance with your suggestion, my staff, P. Check, R. Meyer and S. Kim, called G. O. Geissler on February 28 to correct a misunderstanding. We pointed out that the information we requested has no bearing on how the seismic and LOCA loads are combined. The information was requested so that we could better understand your calculational methods of fuel assembly grid impact and the load response characteristics of your grid design regardless of the type of load (seismic or LOCA or combined). The information may significantly influence our staff position on grid impact acceptance limits. Our request is in accordance with the general desire of all fuel vendors and allows them to provide input prior to our issuing of a staff technical position.

With this clarification we understand from the above-mentioned telephone discussion with M. Geissler that B&W will provide the information we requested.

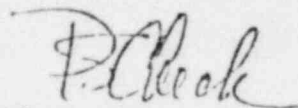
Mr. James H. Taylor

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Please note that information on the sensitivity of grid impact to core plate motion (ref. 1) was requested last Nov. 18, 1977. We prefer that you expedite this request prior to generating information on the sample calculation and grid deformation characteristics, if the combined package would result in a delay. The sensitivity issue is the most urgent one in our schedule.

Sincerely,

  
D. F. Ross, Jr., Assistant Director  
for Reactor Safety  
Division of Systems Safety

1. Letter from D. F. Ross, Jr., (NRC) to K. E. Suhrke (B&W) dated November 18, 1977.
2. NRC sample problem distributed to all fuel vendors at an NRC-vendor-meeting on November 29, 1977.
3. Letter from D. F. Ross, Jr., (NRC) to K. E. Suhrke (B&W) dated January 26, 1978.