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August 17, 1982

Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Subject: Byron Station Units 1 and 2
Braidwood Station Units 1 and 2
Containment Isolation
NRC Docket Nos. 50-454, 50-455,
50-456 and 50-457

Dear Mr. Denton:

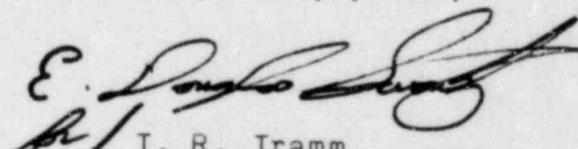
This is to provide advance copies of the revision to a response to a Byron/Braidwood FSAR question regarding containment isolation provisions. This information will be incorporated into the FSAR in the next amendment.

Enclosed is a revised response to FSAR question 022.54 regarding valves in the containment ventilation systems which will be sealed closed during operational modes. The response has been revised to indicate why power interruption is not practical in the case of the post LOCA purge system isolation valve (1VQ003). The operator for this valve will be tagged to prevent operation during power operation, startup, hot standby, or hot shutdown. This valve is identical to other isolation valves in the mini-flow containment purge system and are qualified to close under LOCA conditions.

Please address questions regarding this matter to this office.

One signed original and fifteen copies of this letter are provided for your review.

Very truly yours,


T. R. Tramm
Nuclear Licensing Administrator

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Attachment

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QUESTION 022.54

"Verify that the normal containment purge system isolation valves (1VQ001A,B, and 1VQ002A,B) and post-LOCA purge system isolation valve (1VQ003) will be sealed closed (as defined in SRP Section 6.2.4 11.2.f) during the operational modes of power operation, startup, hot standby, and hot shutdown."

RESPONSE

The normal containment purge valves will be locked closed by the administrative procedure of interrupting power to the valve at the circuit breaker (i.e., the circuit breaker will be racked out) and tagging the breaker "out of service." Inadvertant operation of the purge valves requires violation of procedures prohibiting both the operation of tagged-out equipment and the containment purge system. Tagging out at the breaker is considered equivalent to a mechanical lock because in both instances positive action is used to prevent the valve from receiving power and an administrative procedure is required to return the breaker to service. The post-LOCA system isolation valve (1VQ003) is a solenoid operated valve and is not supplied with a unique power source. Therefore interrupting power to this valve is not practical. The operator for this valve will be tagged to prevent operation during power operation, startup, hot standby, or hot shutdown. Valve 1VQ003 is identical to valves 1VQ004A/B and 1VQ005A/B, the miniflow containment isolation valves, and is equipped with an operator capable of closing the valve in 5 seconds for containment isolation (see Table 6.2-58).