September 21, 1990

Docket No. 50-346

Mr. Donald C. She'ton Vice President - Nuclear Toledo Edison Company Edison Plaza - Stop 712 300 Madison Avenue Toledo, Ohio 43652

Dear Mr. Shelton:

SUBJECT: PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE TO ASME SECTION X1 REQUIREMENTS FOR VOLUMETRIC AND SURFACE EXAMINATIONS OF REACTOR VESSEL NOZZLE TO PIPE WELDS (TAC NO. M75327)

By letter dated December 7, 1989, as supplemented December 29, 1989, Toledo Edison requested relief from the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code. Section XI, requirements for a surface examination of welds at the terminal ends of piping runs connected to the reactor vessel. This request also included a proposed alternative of enhanced ultrasonic testing (UT). The staff has completed its review of this request. A copy of the safety evaluation is enclosed.

Based on our review, we have determined that the testing for which this relief has been requested is impractical to perform and that the alternative requirement for enhanced UT is authorized by law and will not endanger life or property or the common defense and security and is otherwise in the public interest. In making this determination, we have given due consideration to the burden that would result if the surface ex minations were imposed on your facility.

The relief is granted as requested pursuant to 10 CFR Part 50.55a(g)(6)(i)and 50.55a(a)(3)(11).

> Sincerely. Original signed by Robert B. Samworth for

John N. Hannon, Director Project Directorate III-3 Division of Reactor Projects - III. IV, V and Special Projects Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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> Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosure: See next page

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Mr. Donald C. Shelton Toledo Edison Company

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CC: David E. Burke, Esq. The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company P. O. Box 5000 Cleveland, Ohio 44101

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