



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

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June 15, 1981

✓ MEMORANDUM FOR: Carlyle Michelson, Director, Office for Analysis and Evaluation of Operational Data
FROM: Harold R. Denton, Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
SUBJECT: H. B. ROBINSON RCS LEAK ON JANUARY 29, 1981

We have reviewed your Engineering Evaluation Report on the H. B. Robinson RCS leak, prepared by Wayne D. Lanning on March 23, 1981, and we find the matter of interest. As you pointed out in your transmittal letter, no safety issues were identified and no immediate action is warranted by the NRC. However, we plan to take the event and your recommendations into consideration for further evaluation by our staff, and we did pass the information along to the utilities.

As you know, the SPEB of DST is developing a methodology to be used to prioritize new safety issues, and, based on the prioritization, to make recommendations regarding allocation of NRR resources to develop and implement new requirements. These requirements would be applicable to license application reviews and to plants already having an Operating License, as appropriate. Details of this methodology are currently being developed. However, it is clear that the methodology will involve the following two key elements:

1. The safety benefit achieved by developing and implementing a new requirement, and
2. The cost of developing and implementing new requirements. Cost includes both staff cost (manpower resources and contractor cost) and the cost to the industry.

In order for us to evaluate and prioritize the concern you have identified and determine whether it merits the allocation of NRR resources, relative to other safety concerns, staff in the appropriate NRR Divisions and perhaps AEOD may have to develop additional pertinent information.

We appreciate your bringing this matter to our attention.

Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page

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June 15, 1981

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