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MAR 17 1994

Docket No. 50-333

Mr. Harry P. Salmon, Jr.
Resident Manager
New York Power Authority
James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant
Post Office Box 41
Lycoming, New York 13093

Dear Mr. Salmon:

Subject: NRC Inspection No. 50-333/94-07

An announced safety inspection of the radiation protection program at your facility was conducted by Mr. J. Furia of this office on February 28 - March 4, 1994. The inspection findings were discussed with you and members of your staff at the conclusion of the inspection on March 4, 1994, and by telephone with Mr. John Solini, of your staff, on March 14, 1994.

Areas examined during this inspection are important to health and safety and included your program for maintaining occupational exposures as low as reasonably achievable (ALARA), radiological controls during normal operations, dosimetry, and assurance of quality, and are described in the NRC Region I Inspection Report enclosed with this letter. Within the areas reviewed, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative recorded interviews with personnel, and observations by the inspector.

Changes to your internal and external dosimetry program, as required under the revisions to 10CFR20, were successfully implemented, and plant performance in maintaining occupational exposure ALARA was generally improved from past years. However, a weakness was noted in communications between groups involved in the irradiated hardware shipping campaign. Additionally, one violation of NRC requirements was identified in the area of procedural compliance, as documented in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice). Furthermore, in addition to the two examples of the violation cited, several additional examples of procedural non-compliance were identified by your Quality Assurance Department in the five months preceding the inspection. While this is indicative of a strong self-identification program, it may also indicate that your corrective action program has not always been effective in preventing recurrence. This area deserves attention to determine if a programmatic weakness exists.

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You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. In your response, in addition to addressing the preventive and corrective actions specific to the cited examples, we request that you also address those actions you have taken or plan to take, and their dates of completion or scheduled completion, to address the broader issue of procedure non-compliance identified by your Quality Assurance Department.

Your cooperation with us in this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

James H. Joyner, Chief
Facilities Radiological Safety
and Safeguards Branch
Division of Radiation Safety
and Safeguards

Enclosures:

1. Notice of Violation
2. NRC Region I Inspection Report No. 50-333/94-07

cc w/encl:

R. Schoenberger, Acting President
W. Josiger, Acting Executive Vice President - Nuclear
G. Golustein, Assistant General Counsel
J. Gray, Jr., Director, Nuclear Licensing - BWR
Supervisor, Town of Scriba
C. Donaldson, Esquire, Assistant Attorney General, New York Department of Law
Director, Energy & Water Division, Department of Public Service, State of New York
K. Abraham, PAO (2)
Public Document Room (PDR)
Local Public Document Room (LPDR)
Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)
NRC Resident Inspector
State of New York, SLO Designee

bcc w/encl:

Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)

C. Cowgill, DRP

P. Eselgroth, DRP

R. Urban, DRP

B. Welling, DRP

B. Cook - FitzPatrick

R. Capra, NRR

J. Menning, NRR

bcc w/encl: (VIA E-MAIL)

M. Shannon, NRR (MXS1)

V. McCree, OEDO (VMM)

RI:DRSS

JTF

JFuria

3/6/94

RI:DRSS

RB

RBores

3/16/94

RI:DRSS

JST

JJoyner

3/16/94

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