



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

October 12, 1990

Docket No. 50-412
Serial No. BV-90-017

Mr. J. D. Sieber, Vice President
Nuclear Group
Duquesne Light Company
P. O. Box 4
Shippingport, Pennsylvania 15007

Dear Mr. Sieber:

SUBJECT: BEAVER VALLEY 2: EXCLUSION OF DYNAMIC EFFECTS OF POSTULATED PIPE RUPTURES - ELIMINATION OF LARGE-BORE SNUBBERS (TAC 71086)

By letter dated October 27, 1988, Duquesne Light Company (DLC) requested approval for modification of certain reactor coolant system component supports for the Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit 2. The request was predicated upon the exclusion from the design basis of the dynamic effects of postulated pipe ruptures using fracture-mechanics, leak-before-break technology (LBB) as permitted by General Design Criterion 4 (GDC-4), Appendix A to 10 CFR Part 50. That request was supplemented with additional information on January 4 and 25, 1989, and February 27, 1989.

The February 27, 1989, letter included a clarification that DLC was modifying the request to seek approval of the component support elimination for one fuel cycle only. The original request was modified because the staff's evaluations could not be completed in time to support Commission approval of the original request prior to restart from the first refueling outage. On March 3, 1989, the Commission approved DLC's request for the second fuel cycle only pending completion of our evaluations.

On May 15, 1990, and August 10, 1990, additional information necessary for the staff to continue its evaluations was submitted by DLC. The latter submittal also includes a request for extension of the limited approval granted March 3, 1989, until the staff's review is complete.

Our efforts are continuing, but the staff will be unable to arrive at a final resolution of the issues prior to the scheduled restart of Unit 2 from the second refueling outage. We have reexamined the bases for our granting of the limited approval for Cycle 2 operation, and find that those bases are still valid for operation for one additional fuel cycle. Therefore, application of LBB for the pressurizer and residual heat removal line, the elimination of certain large-bore snubbers, and the addition of rigid struts as detailed in

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Mr. J. D. Sieber

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your October 27, 1988, submittal is approved for the third fuel cycle. This approval is subject to all commitments and limitations that applied to our granting interim approval for operation for the second fuel cycle.

Sincerely,

/s/

Albert W. De Agazio, Sr. Project Manager
Project Directorate I-4
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page

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