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Public Service
Company of Colorado
P.O. Box 840
Denver CO 80201-0840

December 19, 1990
Fort St. Vrain
Unit No. 1
P-90371

A. Clegg Crawford
Vice President
Nuclear Operations

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, D. C. 20555

ATTN: Mr. Seymour H. Weiss, Director
Non-Power Reactor, Decommissioning and
Environmental Project Directorate

Docket No. 50-267

SUBJECT: Removal and Disposal of Region Constraint Devices

- REFERENCES:
- (1) NRC Letter, Heitner to Williams, dated August 30, 1989 (G-89304) Fort St. Vrain Nuclear Generating Station, Amendment No. 72 to Facility Operating License No. DPR-34 (TAC No. 73418)
 - (2) NRC Letter, Weiss to Crawford, dated May 1, 1990 (G-90102) Confirmatory Order on Shutdown of Fort St. Vrain (TAC NO. 75114)
 - (3) NRC Letter, Weiss to Crawford, dated November 29, 1990 (G-90285) Component Removal Activities

Dear Mr. Weiss:

This letter is to notify you of Public Service Company of Colorado's (PSC) intent to begin removing and disposing of Region Constraint Devices from the Fort St. Vrain (FSV) plant starting January 4, 1991. This activity shall be accomplished in accordance with the provisions of 10 CFR 50.59 and will not limit the choice of reasonable decommissioning alternatives nor substantially increase the cost of FSV decommissioning. This activity is being undertaken at this time to maintain a high productivity level in the FSV work force, and is necessary to avoid an increase in the cost of FSV decommissioning.

On August 30, 1989, the NRC issued an Amendment (Reference 1) to the Fort St. Vrain facility operating license limiting reactor power to 2% of full power after June 30, 1990. In Reference 2, the NRC ordered PSC to not bring the Fort St. Vrain reactor to criticality nor operate the plant at any power level. The Region Constraint Devices are only necessary to limit core region movements and prevent reactor temperature fluctuations at power levels approaching 70%. This component removal and disposal activity does not constitute an irreversible action in keeping with the requirements of Reference 3.

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PSC considers that this activity is fully in compliance with applicable regulations and license requirements. If you have any questions about the information presented herein, please contact Mr. M. H. Holmes at (303) 480-6960.

Very truly yours,



A. Clegg Crawford
Vice President
Nuclear Operations

ACC/HLB:gcb

cc: Regional Administrator, Region IV
ATTN: Mr. G. L. Constable, Chief
Technical Support Section
Division of Reactor Projects

Mr. J. B. Baird
Senior Resident Inspector
Fort St. Vrain