

November 12, 1982

SBN-365
T.F. B7.1.2

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Attention: Mr. George W. Knighton, Chief
Licensing Branch 3
Division of Licensing

References: (a) Construction Permits CPPR-135 and CPPR-136, Docket
Nos. 50-443 and 50-444
(b) USNRC Memorandum, dated October 14, 1982, "Notice of
Meeting Regarding Open Items in the Safety Review,"
L. L. Wheeler to J. D. Kerrigan

Subject: Responses to Open Items (SRP 4.2.4.2 and 4.2.4.3; Core
Performance Branch)

Dear Sir:

As a result of a recent meeting with the NRC Staff [Reference (b)] we offer the following responses to the subject open items. These responses clarify our positions on these open items and should assist the Staff in preparation of the Safety Evaluation Report.

Open Item (SRP Section 4.2.4.2)

On-line fuel rod failure detection is needed.

Response:

As stated in FSAR Section 4.2.4.6, coolant activity and chemistry are followed to permit early detection of any fuel clad defects. In addition, FSAR Section 11.5.2.1-g presents details of the on-line fuel system monitor. This radiation monitor is in continuous operation in the reactor coolant system letdown line and has the capability to detect radionuclide activities over a range of 10^{-4} to 10^3 uc/cc.

Open Item (SRP Section 4.2.4.3)

Need a commitment for and description of plans for post-irradiation pool-side surveillance of fuel.

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Response:

To provide amplification of the existing commitment and description currently in FSAR Section 4.2.4.6, the last paragraph will be replaced with the following:

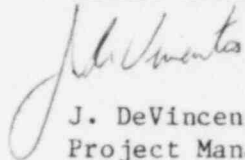
Visual irradiated fuel inspections will be routinely conducted during each refueling. Selected fuel assemblies will be inspected for fuel rod failure, structural integrity, crud deposition, rod bow and other irregularities. Fuel assemblies will be selected for inspection based upon performance history and recommendations made by the fuel supplier.

The fuel inspection program will be expanded to include more fuel assemblies or greater detail of examination if high coolant activity is experienced during operation, irregularities are noted in fuel performance, irregularities are noted during routine inspections, or if a new fuel design is incorporated.

This revision will be incorporated in OL Application Amendment 48.

Very truly yours,

YANKEE ATOMIC ELECTRIC COMPANY



J. DeVincentis
Project Manager

ALL/fsf