



ARKANSAS POWER & LIGHT COMPANY  
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March 16, 1983

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Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
ATTN: Mr. J. F. Stolz, Chief  
Operating Reactors Branch #4  
Division of Licensing  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555

SUBJECT: Arkansas Nuclear One - Unit 1  
Docket No. 50-313  
License No. DPR-51  
Inservice Inspection of Once  
Through Steam Generator Tubes

Gentlemen:

By letter dated February 7, 1983, (1CANØ283Ø6) AP&L submitted preliminary results of once through steam generator (OTSG) tubing inspections conducted during the current refueling outage. As noted in that letter, the ANO-1 Technical Specifications require NRC approval of corrective actions taken as a result of such inspections. The tube plugging program outlined in our previous letter is nearing completion and ANO-1 is scheduled to restart by March 22, 1983. Therefore, your expeditious review is requested.

Via conversations with Mr. Guy Vissing and others of your staff, AP&L was asked to consider an additional inspection during the next cycle of operation. The purpose of such an inspection would be to confirm that tube degradation is not progressing rapidly during the cycle. As discussed with your staff, it is not clear the degradation mechanism is such that unusual tube degradation would be expected during the next cycle. Rather, the tube degradation observed during the most recent inspections may have occurred in a short period of time during or immediately after the March 1982 outage.

As discussed in our February 7, 1983, letter, tube specimens have been removed from the B OTSG and are currently undergoing detailed metallurgical examinations. The results of these examinations are expected to be available by the end of April and will be submitted to the NRC following review by AP&L. Should the results of these examinations and other available data

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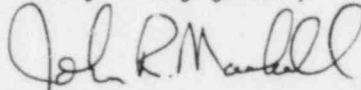
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indicate a mechanism which would result in an unacceptable degradation rate, AP&L will conduct additional eddy current examinations near the midpoint of the upcoming cycle.

Such an inspection would consist of a reexamination of the degraded tubes observed during the previous inspection and would be limited to the affected portions of the tubes. In addition, should the results of such an inspection indicate a low or zero degradation rate since the previous inspection, the current Technical Specification plugging criterion would not be applied. We feel this would be acceptable since the Technical Specification plugging criterion is based on a full cycle of operation. A revised plugging criterion would be proposed based on the remaining cycle length, the calculated degradation rate, and the minimum required tube wall thickness.

Very truly yours,



John R. Marshall  
Manager, Licensing

JRM:DRH