



Department of Energy
Washington, D.C. 20545

Docket No. 50-537
HQ:S:83:247

APR 27 1983

Dr. J. Nelson Grace, Director
CRBR Program Office
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Dr. Grace:

PRIMARY HEAT TRANSPORT SYSTEM (PHTS) BRANCH LINE EVALUATION

Reference: Letter, J. Ebersole to N. Palladino, "ACRS Report on the
Clinch River Breeder Reactor Plant," dated April 19, 1983

During the April 14, 1983, Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) meeting on the Clinch River Breeder Reactor Plant, members raised questions about the adequacy and significance of small PHTS branch lines. Although several questions were answered during the meeting, the referenced letter suggested that the branch lines be evaluated further.

We have undertaken evaluations in response to the ACRS suggestion. The ability of branch lines to withstand seismic events greater than the safe shutdown earthquake and the consequences of branch line failure are being evaluated. We will forward the results of our evaluations to you on or before May 17, 1983.

If there are any questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. D. Florek (FTS 626-6188) or Mr. A. Meller (FTS 626-6355) of the Project Office Oak Ridge staff.

Sincerely,

John R. Longenecker
Acting Director, Office of
Breeder Demonstration Projects
Office of Nuclear Energy

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