



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 12, 1995

Mr. J. E. Cross  
Senior Vice President and  
Chief Nuclear Officer  
Nuclear Power Division  
Duquesne Light Company  
Post Office Box 4  
Shippingport, PA 15077

SUBJECT: BEAVER VALLEY POWER STATION, UNIT NOS. 1 AND 2 - RELIEF FROM CODE  
HYDROSTATIC PRESSURE TEST REQUIREMENT FOR ISI 10-YEAR TESTING (TAC  
NOS. M90160 AND 90159)

Dear Mr. Cross:

The purpose of this letter is to authorize your proposed alternative (Code Case N-498-1) to the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (ASME Code). This provides relief for the Inservice Inspection (ISI) program.

In a letter dated August 3, 1994, Duquesne Light Company (DLC) proposed an alternative test to the requirements of the ASME Code. DLC requested approval to implement the alternative rules of ASME Section XI Code Case N-498-1, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3) for 10-year hydrostatic testing on Class 1, 2, and 3 systems. Code case N-498-1 permits the use of leak testing in lieu of hydrostatic testing.

The applicable ASME Code for Unit Nos. 1 and 2 is the 1983 Edition with Summer 1983 Addenda. The proposed alternative is from the 1992 Edition. The 1989 Edition of Sections XI and III is the latest Edition referenced in 10 CFR 50.55a; therefore, for NRC purposes, the 1992 Edition is considered as an alternative to the Code.

We have reviewed the information DLC has provided in support of the relief requested in the August 3, 1994, letter. Based on the information submitted, the alternative for hydrostatic testing contained in your proposal, use of Code Case N-498-1 for Code Class 1, 2, and 3, is authorized pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(ii) because compliance with the specified hydrostatic testing requirements would result in hardship or unusual difficulty without a compensating increase in the level of quality and safety. The alternative testing is authorized until such time as the Code Case is published in a future revision of Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.147. At that time, if you intend to continue to implement this Code Case, you should also implement any limitations issued in RG 1.147.

The staff has determined that granting relief, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(3)(ii) is authorized by law and will not endanger life or property, or the common defense and security and is otherwise in the public interest.

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J. E. Cross

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January 12, 1995

Accordingly, the above identified relief request is hereby authorized, subject to the conditions detailed in the enclosed Safety Evaluation.

By this letter, we are closing TAC Nos. M90160 and M90159.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Walter R. Butler, Director  
Project Directorate I-3  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-334  
and 50-412

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

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Duquesne Light Company

Beaver Valley Power Station  
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