

SNUPPS

Standardized Nuclear Unit
Power Plant System

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Nicholas A. Petrick
Executive Director

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SLNRC 84-0043 FILE: 0278
SUBJ: Containment Isolation
Dependability

Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Docket Nos. STN 50-482 and STN 50-483

Dear Mr. Denton:

The NRC Safety Evaluation Reports (SER) for the SNUPPS plants, Callaway Plant Unit No. 1 and Wolf Creek Generating Station Unit No. 1, require the demonstration that the containment setpoint pressure for isolation of non-essential penetrations has been reduced to the minimum compatible with normal operating conditions. The requirement is stated in Section 22 of the SER and is based on TMI Action Plan item II.E.4.2, Position (5), Clarification (6).

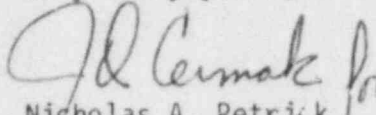
The setpoint in question is "Containment Pressure-High-1" which has a value of <3.5 psig in the Technical Specifications for the SNUPPS plants. To demonstrate that the setpoint is at a practical minimum, consideration must be given to the anticipated containment pressure range during normal operation and the accuracy of the pressure instrument channel. The normal operation containment high pressure range is expected to be approximately 1 to 1.5 psig. The accuracy of the Containment Pressure-High-1 channel can be affected by several factors, e.g., drift, calibration errors and ambient temperature effects. These effects can result in a setpoint error of as high as 1.9 psig. Therefore, under normal conditions, only a small margin exists for the prevention of inadvertent containment isolation signals and consequent

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plant upset conditions. Therefore, the SNUPPS Containment Pressure-High-1 setpoint is consistent with the guidelines of Action Plan item II.E.4.2, Position (5).

Very truly yours,


Nicholas A. Petrick

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