



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555  
March 16, 1992

Docket No. 50-333

Mr. Ralph E. Beedle  
Executive Vice President - Nuclear  
Generation  
Power Authority of the State of  
New York  
123 Main Street  
White Plains, New York 10601

Dear Mr. Beedle:

SUBJECT: RELIABILITY OF MANUAL BUS TRANSFERS BETWEEN ONSITE AND OFFSITE POWER SUPPLIES AND RESOLUTION OF 4.16 KV SWITCHGEAR DEFICIENCY - JAMES A. FITZPATRICK POWER PLANT (TAC NO. M76947)

By letter dated September 4, 1990, you submitted a report describing your long-term plans to correct a switchgear deficiency described in Safety System Functional Inspection (SSFI) Report Number 50-333/89-80. This deficiency involves the potential for exceeding the short circuit rating of certain 4160V switchgear if a postulated bolted three-phase electrical fault occurs while the Emergency Diesel Generators (EDGs) are operating in parallel with the Normal Station Service Transformer. By letter dated December 28, 1990, you submitted information regarding the reliability of manual bus transfers between the onsite and offsite power supplies. This issue involves the difficulty in performing manual bus transfers due to the phase shift experienced at FitzPatrick.

The NRC staff has reviewed the information provided by your staff and concludes that our concern about the reliability of manual bus transfers has been adequately resolved with the installation of a new transformer between the 345kV and 115kV systems at the Oswego Steam Station switchyard. Also, given the small core damage frequency contribution of postulated fault scenarios during the monthly diesel generator testing coupled with implementation of the recommended administrative measures discussed in the enclosed safety evaluation, the NRC staff concludes that no switchgear design modifications are necessary. The NRC staff also concludes that, given the inherent risks associated with manual bus transfers, transferring loads from the Normal Station Service Transformer to the Reserve Station Service Transformer to perform EDG testing is no longer required.

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Mr. Ralph E. Beedle

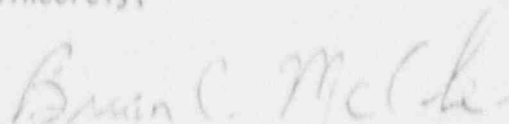
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You are requested to provide the NRC staff, in writing, an affirmation of your commitment to conduct the preventative measures outlined on page 5 of the enclosed safety evaluation during future EDG testing. This submittal should also include your plans to address the administrative measures outlined on page 6 of the enclosed safety evaluation. We request that you provide us with the stated information within 60 days of receipt of this letter. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (301) 504-1423.

This action completes our review activities on TAC No. M76947.

Sincerely,



Brian C. McCabe, Project Manager  
Project Directorate 1-1  
Division of Reactor Projects - 1/11  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:  
Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosure:  
See next page

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