



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

April 2, 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: USE OF A CLOSED CIRCUIT MONITORING SYSTEM TO ESTABLISH A CONTINUOUS
FIRE WATCH - JAMES A. FITZPATRICK NUCLEAR POWER PLANT
(TAC NO. M83014)

During a January 6, 1992, teleconference between the Power Authority of the State of New York (PASNY) and the NRC staff, your staff requested NRC approval of the use of a closed circuit television (CCTV) system to monitor a non-functional fire barrier penetration seal in the condensate demineralizer fire room in lieu of a conventional continuous fire watch. This request was based on the premise that the CCTV system reduces personnel radiation exposure incurred during a conventional continuous fire watch while providing an equivalent level of protection. Based on the information provided by your staff during the aforementioned teleconference, the NRC staff granted interim approval for the use of a CCTV system to monitor the non-functional fire barrier penetration seal in the condensate demineralizer room, but requested additional information regarding the CCTV equipment specifications, the compensatory fire detection equipment capabilities and surveillances, and the radiological conditions in the stated area.

By letter dated February 10, 1992, your staff provided us with the requested information. The NRC staff has reviewed this information, and concludes that the CCTV system, in conjunction with the additional compensatory fire detection and monitoring capabilities established, provides an adequate level of fire protection until the stated fire barrier penetration seal is repaired. However, the NRC staff does not approve of the use of CCTV systems in lieu of conventional fire watches on a generic basis. The use of CCTV systems in lieu of conventional fire watches must be evaluated and approved by the NRC staff on a case-by-case basis. This evaluation will consider aspects such as fire protection, detection, and suppression capabilities, CCTV system specifications, combustible material quantities in the affected area, and as low as is reasonably achievable (ALARA) considerations for personnel radiation exposure.

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Mr. Ralph E. Beedle

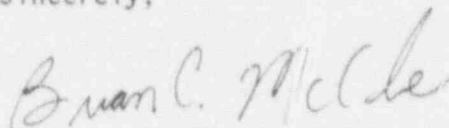
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April 2, 1992

Another issue discussed in your February 10, 1992, submittal is the replacement of ionization type detectors with photoelectric units. As already discussed with Mr. Jack Gray of your Licensing staff in a telephone conversation on March 23, 1992, the NRC staff finds the replacement of ionization type detectors with photoelectric units, as outlined in your February 10, 1992, submittal, to be acceptable.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please call me at (301) 504-1423.

Sincerely,



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

cc: See next page

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Mr. Ralph E. Beedle

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Original Signed By
Brian C. McCabe, Project Manager
Project Directorate I-1
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page

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NRC & Local PDRs
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Plant File

cc: Plant Service List

OFFICE	LA:PDI-1	PM:PDI-1 <i>WPC</i>	SPLB <i>RA</i>	D:PDI-1	
NAME	<i>CSVogan</i>	<i>BMcCabe:pc</i>	<i>CMcCracken</i>	<i>RACapra</i> <i>ROC</i>	
DATE	<i>3/30/92</i>	<i>03/13/92</i>	<i>4/12/92</i>	<i>4/12/92</i>	<i>1/1</i>

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