



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

August 17, 1984

Docket No. 50-373

Mr. Dennis L. Farrar
Director of Nuclear Licensing
Commonwealth Edison Company
Post Office Box 767
Chicago, Illinois 60690

Dear Mr. Farrar:

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING SRV BLOWDOWN TEST

In the La Salle Safety Evaluation Report (SER), the NRC staff indicated that you had committed to perform a comprehensive safety relief valve (SRV) in-plant test to demonstrate that the calculated maximum local pool temperature of 200°F will not be exceeded. The 200°F local pool temperature limit analyses was based on NUREG-0487, "Mark II Containment Lead Plant Program Load Evaluation and Acceptance Criteria."

Since the issuance of the SER, the Mark II Owners Group, which Commonwealth Edison is a member, proposed alternative suppression pool limits. The alternative limits which are applicable to La Salle are contained in NUREG-0783, "Suppression Pool Temperature Limits for BWR Containments," which supersede the criteria contained in NUREG-0487. The alternative local pool temperature limits set forth in NUREG-0783 are dependent on the steam mass flux and the amount of subcooling of the suppression pool water near the steam quench front. For La Salle, the new temperature limits range between 200°F and 216.5°F.

The staff and its contractor, the Brookhaven National Laboratory, have completed their evaluation of your report entitled, "La Salle County Station, Unit 1, In-Plant SRV Test, Evaluation of Suppression Pool Temperature Measurements." In this report, you present results to show that the average local-to-bulk pool temperature difference is 8.1°F. The corresponding 95/95 confidence level non-exceedance temperature is 12°F. These test results are also intended to confirm the adequacy of the suppression pool temperature monitoring system for providing a conservative measure of the bulk pool temperature.

The staff's evaluation concludes that the test report does not provide sufficient, pertinent data needed to permit the staff to determine a local-to-bulk temperature difference value suitable for use in the La Salle Mark II plant transient analyses. We base this conclusion on the fact that you did not satisfy the criteria set forth in NUREG-0487 and NUREG-0783. The number of sensors reported is insufficient to provide an acceptable spatial average. Also, a non-conservative bias could be introduced by the use of sensors T2 and T4, which are located on the basemat, 4½ feet below the quencher elevation and about 2 feet upstream of the quencher center relative to the bulk pool motion.

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Despite these deficiencies, it is still possible that the reported temperatures do provide a reasonable measure of local pool temperature. In order for the staff and its consultant to make this determination, the enclosed additional information is requested. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact A. Bournia, Project Manager.

Sincerely,

A. Schwencer, Chief
Licensing Branch No. 2
Division of Licensing

Enclosure:
Request for Add'l Info.

cc: See next page

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ENCLOSURE

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
LA SALLE COUNTY STATION, UNIT 1

1. Provide the temperature histories recorded by all (32) operating temperature sensors during each of the seven extended blowdown tests. These data can be supplied in the same graphical format used in the test report (Figure C-1).
2. Identify where temperature sensors T32 and T33 are located relative to the end cap holes.