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May 26, 1992

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Station P1-137
Washington, D. C. 20555

Attention: Document Control Desk

Subject: Grand Gulf Nuclear Station
Unit 1
Docket No. 50-416
License No. NPF-29
Differential Rod Growth in SNP 8x8

GNRO-92/00063

Gentlemen:

As presented to you in a meeting on May 22, 1992, analyses to support the differential rod growth in SNP 8x8 fuel assemblies identified a slight reduction in excess CPR margin due to additional rod bow in those assemblies. In accordance with SNP methodology the newly calculated rod-to-rod spacing of 0.044 inches results in a Δ CPR of 0.06 for 8x8 assemblies.

Although this reduction is not significant relative to the existing CPR margin, we committed in our discussions with you on May 22 to incorporate the CPR change in the core monitoring system (Powerplex). We will therefore increase the operating MCPR for all 8x8 fuel assemblies within Powerplex by 0.06. This change will be implemented prior to exceeding 25% core thermal power for Cycle 6 operations.

This change is being implemented for additional conservatism, requiring no change to the previously requested Cycle 6 Technical Specification Amendment.

Yours truly,

WTC Cottle

WTC/MJM/be

cc: (See Next Page)

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