R-16

BOSTON EDISON COMPANY
800 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02199

J. EDWARD HOWARD
VICE PRESIDENT
NUCLEAR

March 1, 1976

BECo. Ltr. #76-4

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
ATTN: D. L. Ziemann, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #2
Division of Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Docket No. 50-293 - License No. DPR-35
RBM Setpoint During Single Loop Operation

Dear Sir:

On November 17, 1975, Boston Edison submitted analyses in support of Pilgrim I operation with a single recirculation pump in service. As indicated in our November 17 letter, the equation for the RBM rod block setpoint must be modified to provide additional local core protection from the postulated rod withdrawal error while on single loop operation. The testing we indicated would be performed the next time Pilgrim I was on single loop operation has been performed and appropriate Technical Specification revisions to Technical Specification Page 54 are hereby proposed. In addition, changes to the APRM scram and rod block setpoints while on single loop operation are also proposed as indicated on the attached proposed Technical Specification Pages 27 and 54. These proposed revisions are submitted as a supplement to our July 9, 1975 and November 17, 1975 ECCS/GETAB submittals in response to your letter of June 18, 1975.

The testing performed to determine the appropriate RBM rod block setpoint equation for single loop operating showed that this equation did not exactly parallel the two pump curve as inferred in NEDO-20999. However, since the data falls in a conservative direction with respect to this setpoint, an appropriate setpoint has been administratively imposed in the interim until the NRC issues the proposed revisions. As shown on the attached page, the proposed ~~RBM rod block setpoint equation~~ for single loop operation is ~~S = .58W + 58~~. This is consistent with the slope and intercept for the RBM rod block setpoint for two pump operation as proposed in our July 9, 1975 letter. However, in the interim until these proposed Technical Specification revisions are issued, a setpoint of [redacted] will be administratively imposed. Similar restrictions will be placed on the APRM scram and rod block setpoints. This setpoint is consistent with the present Pilgrim I RMB setpoint equation for two pump operation. A summary of the RBM Rod Block Setpoint History is attached in Table 1.

Since the present Pilgrim I Technical Specifications allow operation with a single recirculation pump and these proposed Technical Specification revisions merely incorporate an additional operating restriction, we believe that these Technical Specification revisions can be issued without endangering the health and safety of the public.

These proposed Technical Specification revisions have been approved by the Operating Review Committee and reviewed by the Nuclear Safety Review and Audit Committee.

If you have additional questions regarding this subject, please contact us.

Very truly yours,

J Edward Howard

Commonwealth of Massachusetts)
County of Suffolk )

Then personally appeared before me J. Edward Howard, who, being duly sworn, did state that he is Vice President - Nuclear of Boston Edison Company, the Applicant herein, and that he is duly authorized to execute and file the submittal contained herein in the name and on behalf of Boston Edison Company and that the statements in said submittal are true to the best of his knowledge and belief.

My Commission expires:

William H. Connelly
Notary Public

WILLIAM H. CONNELLY, Notary Public
My Commission Expires Feb. 4, 1983