

BOSTON EDISON COMPANY  
GENERAL OFFICES 800 BOYLSTON STREET  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02199

March 19, 1976

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 Regulator Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20555

Docket No. 50-293  
License No. DPR-35

NRC Questions on Pilgrim I Reload 2 and  
Single Loop Operation Submittals

Dear Sir:

In a letter dated February 13, 1976, you summarized a meeting held January 29, 1976, between Boston Edison Company personnel and members of your staff. You requested answers to ten questions on the Pilgrim Reload 2 Licensing submittal and seventeen questions on the proposed Pilgrim single loop operation. The answers to these questions are contained in Attachments A and B to this letter.

Additional review of the Boston Edison ECCS/GETAB submittal dated July 9, 1975 and subsequent evaluation work performed by General Electric Company indicates that a revision to the Technical Specification bases should be added to that submittal and, in addition, Page 6-1 of NEDO-20855-01 should be revised. The bases change is indicated by the vertical line identified as "February, 1976" on the attached proposed revised Technical Specification Page 100. This proposed change indicates that an injection of sufficient boron to the reactor to give a concentration of 700 ppm is necessary to bring the reactor from full power to a three percent  $\Delta k$  subcritical condition. The actual shutdown margin obtained by achieving a boron concentration of 700 ppm in the reactor is 4.4 percent, considering the hot to cold reactivity difference, xenon poisoning, etc. Similar Technical Specification bases revisions have been made to the licenses of other operating reactors.

Accordingly, our July 9, 1975 submittal is hereby revised to include a revision to the Technical Specification bases as indicated on the attached revised Page 100 and NEDO-20855-01 is revised as follows:

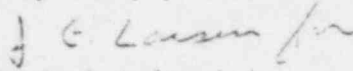
Page  
6-1

Delete Section 6.3 and replace with "A boron concentration of 700 ppm in the moderator water will bring the reactor subcritical by greater than 0.03  $\Delta k$  at 20°C, xenon free."

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We believe that this information and the information contained in Attachments A and B to this letter is sufficient to allow you to complete your review of the Pilgrim Reload 2 licensing submittal and to issue the proposed Technical Specification revisions on ECCS/CETAB and single loop operation, and we request that you expedite their issuance to the extent possible.

Very truly yours,

  
G. Carl Andognini  
Manager  
Nuclear Operations

Attachments

- A Responses to NRC questions on Pilgrim Reload 2 licensing submittal.
- B Responses to NRC questions on Single Loop Operation.