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JUN 16 1992

Docket No. 50-333

Mr. Harry P. Salmon, Jr.
Resident Manager
New York Power Authority
James A. FitzPatrick Power Plant
Post Office Box 41
Lycoming, New York 13093

Dear Mr. Salmon:

**Subject: Initial Systematic Assessment of Licensee Performance (SALP) Report
No. 50-333/91-99**

An NRC SALP Board conducted on May 21, 1992, reviewed and evaluated the performance of activities at the FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant the period of February 1, 1991 through April 18, 1992. The enclosed Initial SALP Report documents the results of this assessment.

This SALP period was characterized by mixed performance. Poor site and corporate management, engineering, and technical support staff oversight of day-to-day plant operations coupled with poor maintenance programs, resulted in system operability concerns which caused three forced plant shutdowns and a number of fire protection program deficiencies. The latter prompted senior management to keep the unit shut down through the start of the 1992 refueling outage. Performance in the four areas of Operations, Maintenance/Surveillance, Engineering/Technical Support, and Safety Assessment/Quality Verification was considered only adequate and warranted further NYPA management attention.

NYPA senior management response to recognized performance weaknesses resulted in a commitment to a comprehensive improvement program with initial implementation towards the end of the SALP period. Accordingly, few tangible results were achieved this assessment period, with the exception of observed improved performance in the Radiological Control area. Performance improvement initiatives in this area were in place during a large portion of the assessment period. Along with Radiological and Environmental Services department management and organizational changes and other programmatic improvements, enhancements in ALARA and general radiation worker performance were noted. Security continued to exhibit a superior level of performance and as evidenced by the excellent execution of the Emergency Plan for actual and simulated events this period, the Emergency Preparedness organization also remained at an outstanding performance level.

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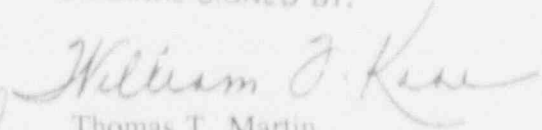
A management meeting to discuss the SALP evaluation has been scheduled for June 29, 1992, at the FitzPatrick site. This meeting will be open for public observation. At the SALP meeting you should be prepared to discuss our assessments and your plans to improve performance. The meeting is intended to be a candid dialogue wherein any comments you may have regarding our report may be discussed. Additionally, you may provide written comments regarding our assessments within 20 days after the meeting.

Shortly after this SALP evaluation period ended, between May 11 and 22, 1992, an NRC evaluation of the FitzPatrick operator requalification program was conducted. The NRC examination team identified no failures and have recommended that the requalification program be declared satisfactory. By separate correspondence, dated June 12, 1992, I have found that your requalification program meets the Commission's regulatory requirements and is considered to be satisfactory.

Your cooperation with us is appreciated.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:


for Thomas T. Martin
Regional Administrator

Enclosure: Systematic Assessment of Licensee Performance (SALP) Report No. 50-333/91-99

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G. Goldstein, Assistant General Counsel
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State of New York, Department of Law
Supervisor, Town of Scriba
Public Document Room (PDR)
Local Public Document Room (LPDR)
Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)
NRC Resident Inspector
State of New York, SLO Designee
The Chairman
Commissioner Rogers
Commissioner Curtiss
Commissioner Remick
Commissioner DePlanque
Institute for Nuclear Power Operations (INPO)
K. Abraham, PAO - RI (30)

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