



Commonwealth Edison
One First National Plaza, Chicago, Illinois
Address Reply to: Post Office Box 767
Chicago, Illinois 60690

May 16, 1985

Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Subject: Byron Station Unit 1
Seismic Qualification
of Equipment
NRC Docket No. 50-454

Dear Mr. Denton:

This letter provides information to justify continued operation of Byron Station Unit 1 until seismic qualification of valves 1RF026 and 1RF027 is established. These valves are active containment isolation valves used to isolate the 3" drain line from the containment floor drain and reactor cavity sumps.

It has been determined that these valves, as installed, are not covered by the seismic qualification report submitted by the valve manufacturer. The valves have a low natural frequency that could prevent them from performing their active function under a seismic event. A reinforcing bracket has been designed for attachment to the valves to eliminate the low natural frequency. This will provide full seismic qualification of the valves. This modification to the valves will be installed within two weeks.

To justify continued plant operation until the reinforcing brackets can be installed, these valves are now administratively controlled in the closed position. Thus, containment integrity is being maintained. Sargent & Lundy and the valve manufacturer have confirmed that the valves, as installed, will remain closed during a postulated seismic event.

During plant operation, there are inputs to the containment floor drain sump that will require the sump to be pumped down periodically. Valves 1RF026 and 1RF027 must be opened for approximately 30 minutes to accomplish this. This operation will be necessary about once every two days and can be controlled by remote operation of the valves.

Due to the limited amount of time these valves would be opened and the low probability of occurrence of a concurrent seismic event, we believe continued operation of the plant is justified.

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H. R. Denton

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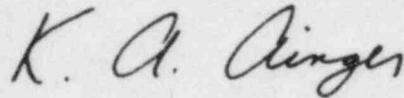
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Immediate NRC approval of this justification for continued operation is needed to support the present Byron Unit 1 startup testing schedule.

Please address any questions regarding this matter to this office.

One signed original and fifteen copies of this letter are provided for NRC review.

Very truly yours,



K. A. Ainger
Nuclear Licensing Administrator

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cc: Byron Resident Inspector

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