

September 22, 1998

Mr. James Knubel
Chief Nuclear Officer
Power Authority of the State of
New York
123 Main Street
White Plains, NY 10601

SUBJECT: JAMES A. FITZPATRICK NUCLEAR POWER PLANT - REQUEST FOR
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING GENERIC LETTER 96-05
(TAC NO. M97048)

Dear Mr. Knubel:

On June 2, 1998, you submitted an updated response to Generic Letter (GL) 96-05 for the James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant, indicating your intent to implement the provisions of a Joint Owners Group (JOG) Program on motor-operated valve (MOV) Periodic Verification. The NRC staff has encouraged licensees to participate in the industry-wide JOG program to provide a benefit in reactor safety by sharing expertise and information on MOV performance and to increase the efficiency of GL 96-05 activities at nuclear plants. Licensee participation in the JOG program also minimizes the amount of information necessary for the NRC staff to review each licensee's response to GL 96-05. As a result, the NRC staff requires only limited information to complete its GL 96-05 review for FitzPatrick.

Please provide the requested information by October 16, 1998. On September 9, 1998, Mr. Art Zaremba of your staff informed me that this schedule is acceptable.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (301) 415-1470.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by:

Joseph F. Williams, Project Manager
Project Directorate I-1
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-333

Enclosure: Request for Additional
Information

cc w/encl: See next page

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NAME	JWilliams/rsl		SLittle		SBajwa				
DATE	09/22/98		09/22/98		09/22/98				

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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James Knubel
Power Authority of the State
of New York

James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear
Power Plant

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REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
REGARDING LICENSEE RESPONSE
TO GENERIC LETTER 96-05 AT JAMES A. FITZPATRICK NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

1. In NRC Inspection Report No. 50-333/95-20, the NRC staff closed its review of the motor-operated valve (MOV) program implemented at the James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant in response to Generic Letter (GL) 89-10, "Safety-Related Motor-Operated Valve Testing and Surveillance." In the inspection report, the NRC staff discussed certain aspects of the licensee's MOV program to be addressed over the long term. For example, the inspectors noted that (1) the licensee would need to review its use of test data from the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) based on the NRC staff conclusions on the EPRI program that were subsequently provided in the NRC safety evaluation (SE) dated March 15, 1996, and its supplement dated February 20, 1997; (2) the licensee planned to adjust the torque switch settings on specific MOVs and to increase monitoring for stem lubrication degradation; (3) the licensee had initiated an action item to re-evaluate the design bases for several MOVs potentially affected by low voltage conditions and to revise the design-basis documents as needed; and (4) the licensee was evaluating performance of an MOV program audit.

Please describe the actions taken to address the specific long-term aspects of the MOV program at FitzPatrick that were noted in the NRC inspection report.

2. In a letter dated June 2, 1998, you committed to implement the Joint Owners Group (JOG) Program on MOV Periodic Verification in response to GL 96-05. The JOG program specifies that the methodology and discrimination criteria for ranking MOVs according to their safety significance are the responsibility of each participating licensee. In a previous letter dated March 17, 1997, you had generally described the risk ranking of MOVs at FitzPatrick for application of the interim MOV static diagnostic test program. As FitzPatrick is a boiling water reactor (BWR) nuclear plant, are you applying the Boiling Water Reactor Owners' Group (BWROG) methodology for ranking MOVs based on their safety significance as described in BWROG Topical Report NEDC 32264 and the NRC SE dated February 27, 1996? If not, please describe the methodology used for risk ranking MOVs at FitzPatrick in more detail.
3. The JOG program focuses on the potential age-related increase in the thrust or torque required to operate valves under their design-basis conditions. In the NRC SE dated October 30, 1997, on the JOG program, the NRC staff specified that licensees are responsible for addressing the thrust or torque delivered by the MOV motor actuator and its potential degradation.

Please describe your plans for ensuring adequate MOV motor actuator output capability, including consideration of recent guidance in Limitorque Technical Update 98-01 and its Supplement 1 at FitzPatrick.