

September 7, 1988

Docket No.: 50-155

Mr. Kenneth W. Berry
Director, Nuclear Licensing
Consumers Power Company
1945 West Parnall Road
Jackson, Michigan 49201

Dear Mr. Berry:

SUBJECT: BIG ROCK POINT, CONTINUED USE OF NUCOM HAFNIUM CONTROL BLADES
(TAC NO. 68896)

By letter dated July 15, 1988, you provided a clarification of your April 28, 1988, submittal on the continued use of the NUCOM hafnium hybrid control blades. The clarification referred to Attachment 2 "Continued Surveillance Program for NUCOM Control Blades at Big Rock Point." Although you discussed "small differences in control blade weights" (between GE and NUCOM blades) in an Attachment 2 section entitled Control Blade Weight, your clarification stated that weighing is not part of the continued surveillance program.

Because there is considerable accumulated experience with hafnium control rods and it has been established that they do not blister or suffer surface deformation with exposure (detectable by weighing), and because visual inspection is part of the continued surveillance program, we find the clarified surveillance program acceptable.

Accordingly, the Safety Evaluation (SE) issued with our subject letter dated May 17, 1988, has been revised to remove reference to control blade weighing. The revised SE is enclosed.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Wayne E. Scott, Jr., Project Manager
Project Directorate III-1
Division of Reactor Projects - III,
IV, V & Special Projects

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wayne E. Scott Jr." is positioned above the typed name.

Wayne E. Scott, Jr., Project Manager
Project Directorate III-1
Division of Reactor Projects - III,
IV, V & Special Projects

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

Mr. Kenneth W. Berry
Consumers Power Company

Big Rock Point Plant

cc:

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