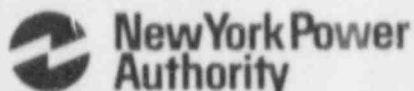


James A. FitzPatrick  
Nuclear Power Plant  
P.O. Box 41  
Lycoming, New York 13093  
315 342.3840



Radford J. Converse  
Resident Manager

September 15, 1988  
JAFP-88-0867

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
ATTN: Document Control Desk  
Washington, D.C. 20555

SUBJECT: JAMES A. FITZPATRICK NUCLEAR POWER PLANT DOCKET NO. 50-333 RESPONSE TO  
NRC BULLETIN NO. 88-07: POWER OSCILLATIONS IN BOILING WATER REACTORS  
(BWRs)

- REFERENCES:
1. NRC letter, D.B. Vassallo to J.P. Bayne, dated March 26, 1985 regarding Reload 6/Cycle 7- Thermal Hydraulic Instability.
  2. NYPA letter, J.P. Bayne to D.B. Vassallo, dated April 8, 1985 regarding the same subject.

Dear Sir:

This letter confirms that the actions required by Bulletin 88-07 have been completed for the James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant.

Specifically, the following actions were taken:

1. All active licensed reactor operators (FitzPatrick no longer maintains separately qualified Shift Technical Advisor) were briefed regarding the March 9, 1988 LaSalle Unit 2 event within 15 days of issuance of the Bulletin, or prior to their returning to active shift duties if they were unavailable within the 15 day period.
2. As committed to the NRC in reference 2 (in response to reference 1), NYPA had previously incorporated the recommendations of General Electric Service Information Letter No. 380, Revision 1 into FitzPatrick Plant operating procedures and Technical Specifications (Amendment No. 98, issued May 6, 1986). NYPA believes that these Technical Specifications, along with the procedures which implement them, adequately address the avoidance, recognition and suppression of thermal-hydraulically induced neutron flux oscillation at FitzPatrick. As a result of the review of these procedures required by the Bulletin, a number of procedural enhancements have been identified which will improve the ability of an operator to respond to such an event if it should occur at this plant. These enhancements which include a single concise abnormal operating procedure entitled "Suppression of Neutron Flux Oscillations" will be completed prior to start-up from the Reload 7 refueling outage currently in progress.

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TO: US NRC  
FROM: R. CONVERSE  
SUBJECT: DOCKET NO. 50-333

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3. The operator training program was reviewed for adequacy on the subject of Thermal-hydraulic stability. While operators had been trained in the subject area, a more comprehensive program was developed which meets all concerns of the bulletin. This new program was taught as part of the 15 day action plan and has now been permanently incorporated into initial and continuing training for licensed reactor operators.
4. FitzPatrick Plant staff verified that instrumentation used by the operators to recognize and suppress reactor instabilities is adequate for this purpose. The control room operator has analog displays of APRM and LPRM flux, along with common audible and visual annunciation of upscale and downscale alarms from either sensor type on a control room front panel. There are also visual downscale and upscale alarms for individual APRMs and LPRMs on the same front panel. If routine surveillance of the analog instrumentation did not alert the operator of abnormal neutron flux oscillations, some combination of audible and visual annunciation would. After becoming cognizant of the existence of a reactor instability, this same instrumentation would guide the operator in responding to the event.

This letter completes the actions required by Bulletin 88-07. Any questions regarding this matter may be directed to Mr. Dave Burch at (315) 349-6311.

VERY TRULY YOURS,

*W. Fernandez for*  
RADFORD J. CONVERSE  
RESIDENT MANAGER

Subscribed and Sworn to before me 15<sup>th</sup> day of September 1988.

*Barbara L. Richardson*  
Notary Public

BARBARA N. RICHARDSON-4712438  
Notary Public, State of New York  
Qualified in Oswego County  
My Commission Expires Apr. 30, 1990

RJC:DB:wgt

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