

July 10, 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 - REACTOR VESSEL
SURVEILLANCE CAPSULE WITHDRAWAL SCHEDULE (TAC NO. MA1233)

Dear Mr. Knubel:

On March 9, 1998, you requested Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) review and approval of the schedule for withdrawal of the last reactor pressure vessel surveillance capsule from the James A. FitzPatrick (JAF) Nuclear Power Plant. This request was made pursuant to 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix H, Section III.B.3. The NRC staff has reviewed the information provided, and has determined that the proposed JAF surveillance program is capable of monitoring the effects of neutron irradiation and the thermal environment on the fracture toughness of ferritic reactor vessel beltline materials. The staff verified that your proposed surveillance capsule withdrawal schedule satisfies the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) E 185-70 standard, and that the withdrawal of the third surveillance capsule will also be in accordance with ASTM E 185-82. Therefore, as discussed in the enclosed safety evaluation, the staff found the proposed JAF surveillance capsule withdrawal schedule to be acceptable.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me on (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: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph F. Williams".

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

Docket No. 50-333

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/enci: See next page

James Knubel
Power Authority of the State
of New York

James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear
Power Plant

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