estinghouse Electric Corporation

**Power Systems** 

Box 355 Pittsburgh Pennsylvania 15230

August 19,-1975

NS-CE-737

Mr. B. C. Rusche, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Rusche:

At the generic meeting a year ago (August 7, 1974) Westinghouse addressed NRC (EICSB) concerns about wiring separation within the I and C protection racks. It was then agreed that Westinghouse perform additional tests to demonstrate that credible electrical faults or noise induced on control cables external to the racks could not degrade protection system performance below an acceptable level. In support of the Diablo Canyon application, Westinghouse prepared for technical review a report on these tests, ("Westinghouse Protection Systems Noise Tests" - December, 1974). In the tests, the Nuclear Instrumentation, Solid State Protection and 7100 Series Process Control Systems were subjected to electrical faults and induced currents beyond those which could be reasonably postulated to occur. The results and conclusions have been accepted by the Staff and Westinghouse considers the tests applicable to all plants with these systems.

At present, assessment of the 7300 Series Process Control System design employed in newer plants, such as North Anna, Joseph M. Farley, William B. McGuire, Catawba, includes a continuing evaluation by Westinghouse against current criteria as well as NRC concerns. Since these plants employ the Nuclear Instrumentation and Solid State Protection Systems previously tested, as described above, Westinghouse has proposed additional testing to verify the 7300 Series Process Control System design only.

In general, industry standards and NRC Regulatory Guides provide for analyses or tests to demonstrate design adequacy. Westinghouse is in conformance with the applicable criteria in exercising the option to test the subject design as implemented.

Rev'd Off, of Dir. of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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EICSB reviewers have asserted that this option is no longer acceptable for the 7300 Series Process Control System. While we strongly disagree with this position, it is our desire to resolve the issue to our mutual satisfaction. Since many Westinghouse plants are affected, it is our desire to meet with appropriate members of your Staff to discuss this matter generically to determine a proper resolution.

Your prompt reply will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

C. Eicheldinger, Manager Nuclear Safety Department

FWM:pj