August 24, 1987

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

      Subject: Byron Station Unit 2
              Startup Test Program
              NRC Docket No. 50-455

    Reference (a): July 22, 1987 letter from
                 S.C. Hunsader to T.E. Murley

Gentlemen:

    This is to inform you of a change to the Initial Startup Test
Program for Byron Unit 2 described in FSAR Chapter 14. The change was made
in accordance with the provisions of 10 CFR 50.59. FSAR Table 14.2-67
describes the startup test to verify indexing and free passage of the
detectors in the incore flux monitor system. It states the test will be
performed with the plant in hot shutdown (Mode 4) following completion of
core loading and prior to initial criticality. Mode 4 limits reactor
coolant system temperature to 350°F.

    The Byron Unit 2 test to verify indexing and free passage of incore
detectors was performed in hot standby (Mode 3). The reactor coolant system
was near full temperature (557°F) conditions when this test was performed in
Mode 3. Testing at these conditions more closely represents incore system
and reactor internals thermal expansion that would be present during actual
flux mapping. Our safety evaluation of this change concluded that no
unreviewed safety question exists.

    Reference (a) reported this same change to the startup test program
for Braidwood Unit 1 on July 22, 1987 and that letter included a summary of
the safety evaluation for the change. This change to the Byron Unit 2
startup test program was identified on July 1, 1987 and, in accordance with
Facility Operating License NPF-66 condition C.3, should have been reported
to the NRC by July 31, 1987.

    Please direct any questions regarding this matter to this office.

                       Very truly yours,

                       K. A. Ainger
                       Nuclear Licensing Administrator

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cc: Byron Resident Inspector
    NRC Region III Office

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