

July 6, 1987

MEMORANDUM FOR: Edward L. Jordan, Chairman, CRGR  
Robert M. Bernero, NMSS  
James H. Sniezek, NRR  
Denwood F. Ross, RES  
T. T. Martin, RI  
Joseph Scinto, OGC

THRU: John E. Zerbe  
Assistant for CRGR Operations, AEOD

FROM: James H. Conran  
Senior Program Manager, AEOD

SUBJECT SUMMARY AND ISSUE IDENTIFICATION  
CRGR AGENDA ITEM, MEETING NO. 118

Enclosed for your information and use is a CRGR Staff summary for the following CRGR review item:

Proposed Changes to BWR Relay RPS Technical Specifications

This matter is scheduled for CRGR review at Meeting No. 118<sup>B</sup> on Wednesday, July 8, 1987 in Room P-422 Phillips Building at 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Original Signed by:

James H. Conran  
CRGR Staff

Enclosure:  
As stated

Distribution:

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Summary and Issue Identification  
CRGR Agenda Item - Meeting No. 118  
July 8, 1987

IDENTIFICATION

Proposed Technical Specification Improvement for BWR Relay Reactor Protection Systems (RPS).

OBJECTIVE

The staff has requested that the CRGR review and recommend to the EDO acceptance of changes to the technical specifications for the relay-type BWR reactor protection system. The proposed changes are based on the staff's review of GE Topical Reports NEDC-30844, "BWR Owners' Group Response to Generic Letter 83-28" and NEDC-30851P, "Technical Specification Improvement Analysis for BWR RPS."

*NEDO?*

BACKGROUND

The package submitted for review by CRGR in this matter was transmitted by memorandum dated May 27, 1987, Thomas E. Murley to Edward Jordan; that package included the following review documents as attachments:

1. Attachment 1 Draft Letter to T.A. Pickens, Chairman of the BWR Owners' Group (BWROG), regarding acceptance of Topical Reports NEDC-30844 and NEDC-30851P, and enclosures:
  - a. Enclosure 1 NRC Staff Safety Evaluation of Topical Reports NEDC-30844 and NEDC-30851P
  - b. Enclosure 2 Proposed Changes to Relay RPS Technical Specifications
2. Attachment 2 Response to Requirements for Content of Package Submitted for CRGR Review. (Submitted in accordance with CRGR Charter.)

DISCUSSION/ISSUES

The proposed tech spec changes represent a relaxation of current staff positions, i.e., (a) an extension from monthly to quarterly of the surveillance interval for RPS channel functional testing, and (b) an extension from 1 hour to 12 hours, and from 2 hours to 6 hours, of the allowable equipment out-of-service time for RPS instrumentation. The proposed changes are permissive, however, (i.e., they not imposed by the staff on licensees) and so do not represent a backfit. Licensees may adopt the changes voluntarily if they choose to do so.

The staff's evaluations and conclusions in this matter seem generally consistent with the outcome of previous reviews by CRGR and the ROGR staff of related issues for PWRs, specifically:

- a. ROGR staff review of a submittal by Westinghouse, i.e., WCAP-10271 noted in Background Item 2 above, containing analyses similar to NEDC-30851P. (The Committee did not review WCAP-10271, or the associated proposed changes to tech specs of affected PWRs, because the CRGR Charter in effect at that time allowed waiver of CRGR review by the CRGR Chairman, if the Chairman determined that review by the full Committee was not really required and other circumstances, e.g. heavy CRGR review schedule, warranted such action.)
- b. CRGR review (at Meeting Nos. 60 and 61) of a proposed IE Bulletin on the Scram Breaker undervoltage trip attachment problem, and the closely associated question of appropriate test/surveillance intervals for scram breakers affected by this problem.

The proposed action seems straightforward, is a "permissive" type change in current staff position and involves no backfit, and has precedent with respect to PWRs. The CRGR staff has identified no serious issues or prohibitive considerations with respect to this proposed action.