



ARKANSAS POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

July 27, 1989

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U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Document Control Desk
Mail Station P1-137
Washington, DC 20555

SUBJECT: Arkansas Nuclear One - Units 1 and 2
Docket Nos. 50-313/50-368
License Nos. DPR-51 and NPF-6
Compliance with IE Bulletins 79-02 and 79-14

Gentlemen:

On July 21, 1989, the NRC concluded a special inspection regarding past AP&L efforts to establish compliance with IE Bulletins 79-02 and 79-14. At the exit meeting each party noted the cooperative working atmosphere which prevailed during the lengthy inspection and the effective communication between both technical staffs.

Although a significant number of issues were raised and satisfactorily addressed, we are well aware of the remaining open items and discrepancies identified by the audit team. We want to assure the NRC that we recognize and understand the scope and significance of these remaining items. As noted by the inspectors, many of the deficiencies discussed during the inspection were self-identified and brought to the attention of the inspection team by our personnel. We anticipate resolving many of the open items even prior to issuance of the inspection report. Furthermore, we intend to aggressively pursue the resolution paths established by our personnel and discussed with the inspectors prior to the exit meeting.

In particular, we are examining the issues which led to the discrepancies in anchor bolt sampling sizes associated with Bulletin 79-02. Our technical staff is currently assessing means by which this issue can be effectively resolved. It is our intent that the resolutions to this and the other issues be broad and comprehensive, that they address generic implications, as well as addressing any programmatic changes which may become necessary. Based on our interactions with the inspectors, we believe we have an understanding of approaches that would be acceptable to the staff, and that would prove sufficient to resolve the open items in a reasonable manner.

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Should any questions arise during the resolution process we would not hesitate to contact the staff for clarification or other assistance as required.

Formal responses to the various open items will be processed in accordance with normal practices following receipt of the inspection report. This of course will not preclude further communications between the technical staffs as appropriate prior to issuance of the report.

Please feel free to contact my office with any questions you may have regarding the inspection issues or their resolution.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Early C. Ewing', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Early C. Ewing
General Manager,
Technical Support
and Assessment

ECE:CHT:djm

cc: U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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