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Proposes to perform radiogr examination of reactor coolant pump casing welds during 1982 refueling & maintenance outage using portable Linac X-Ray Unit by Elec Pwr Res Inst which should be available in 1980.

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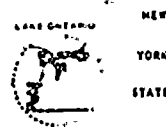
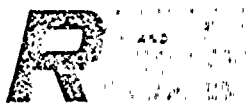
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ROCHESTER GAS AND ELECTRIC CORPORATION • 89 EAST AVENUE, ROCHESTER, N.Y. 14649

LEON D. WHITE, JR.
VICE PRESIDENT

TELEPHONE
AREA CODE 716 546-2700

November 1, 1978

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Attention: Mr. Dennis L. Ziemann, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #2
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Subject: Inservice Inspection of Reactor Coolant Pump
R.E. Ginna Nuclear Power Plant Unit No. 1
Docket No. 50-244

Dear Mr. Ziemann:

On August 22, 1978, we requested relief from the requirement for the liquid penetrant examination of our reactor coolant pump casing welds. This request was based on technical and radiation exposure justification. Since that time we have had several telephone conversations with members of your staff. During these discussions we have reviewed the justification for not performing the liquid penetrant examination if an alternate examination method was not available.

However, most recently we have reviewed the potential for performing a radiographic examination of these pump casing welds with equipment that is being developed by the Electric Power Research Institute. This new piece of equipment is a portable Linac X-Ray Unit which will have the capability of performing the required volumetric examinations of cast austenitic stainless steel weldments. Under the present schedule this system should be available in July 1980 in a field operable unit.

Therefore, if this equipment is available, we would propose to perform a radiographic examination of our reactor coolant pump casing welds during our 1981 Refueling and Maintenance Outage in lieu of the liquid penetrant examination in 1979. The 1981 outage would be the second year of the first forty-month period of the second ten-year interval of our Inservice Inspection Program. A radiographic examination would meet the volumetric examination requirement of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code Section XI, "Rules for Inservice Inspection of Nuclear Power Plant Components." This would also be in keeping with Rochester Gas and Electric Corporation's philosophy of incorporating new inspection techniques into the inservice inspection program as they become available.

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ROCHESTER GAS AND ELECTRIC CORP.

DATE November 1, 1978

TO Mr. Dennis L. Ziemann

SHEET NO.

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In planning for such an inspection, we would build a mock-up of the reactor coolant pumps so that prefabrication of insulation could be performed months ahead of the actual inspection. This effort should greatly reduce the radiation exposure outlined in our previous correspondence. Also, we would run tests with the newly developed portable Linac X-Ray Unit on our pump bowl geometry to assure a proper examination. This would allow us to verify the signal to noise (source strength to background radiation) ratio we might expect when doing the actual examination.

Your prompt attention and response to this request would be appreciated. As you know, this job has major impact on our February 1979 Refueling and Maintenance Outage. If you have any further questions, please contact us.

Sincerely,



Leon D. White, Jr.

LDW:bh