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Describes fuel inspec plans for 1979 shutdown. At end of present Cycle 8, 8 to 10  
Exxon fuel assemblies will be inspec visually w/binoculars. Shutdown & inspec planned  
for late Feb & early March, 1979.

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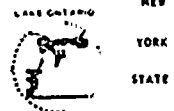
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LEON D. WHITE, JR.  
VICE PRESIDENT

TELEPHONE  
AREA CODE 716 546-2700

November 20, 1978

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

Re: Rochester Gas and Electric Corporation  
R. E. Ginna Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 1  
Docket No. 50-244

Dear Mr. Ziemann:

The purpose of this letter is to address our fuel inspection plans for the 1979 shutdown. The R. E. Ginna Nuclear Station is in its eighth fuel cycle. Cycle 8 consists of 32 new Exxon Nuclear Co. (ENC) fuel assemblies loaded at the core periphery and 89 exposed Westinghouse assemblies scattered loaded in the center of the core. All assemblies are of similar design with the ENC assemblies designed to be compatible with the Westinghouse assemblies.

At the end of this cycle, 8 to 10 of the Exxon fuel assemblies will be visually inspected using binoculars. This inspection plan is considered to be sufficient for the following reasons:

- The primary coolant activity for this cycle has been extremely low. The total activity is averaging around 8% of the Technical Specification limit. This performance is as good as or better than our experience in previous cycles. In addition, the all-rods-out hot-full-power boron concentration is within a few ppm of predictions and the difference between measured and predicted assembly powers is quite good with the average difference being only a few percent. Therefore, Cycle 8 is performing as predicted with no indication of any reactivity or cladding integrity problems.
- During the summer of 1978 two Exxon fuel assemblies which had completed three cycles in the R. E. Ginna core and accumulated a burnup of approximately 25,000 MWD/MTU each were examined. The examination revealed the fuel assemblies to be in good condition with no abnormalities.

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ROCHESTER GAS AND ELECTRIC CORP.

SHEET NO.

DATE November 20, 1978

TO Mr. D. L. Ziemann, Chief

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- Examinations by ENC of similar fuel at other facilities have not revealed any abnormalities. Therefore, there is no reason to expect any abnormalities in the R. E. Ginna fuel.

The Cycle 8 shutdown is presently scheduled for February 1979 and the fuel inspection will be done in late February to early March, 1979.

Very truly yours,

*L.D. White, Jr.*

L. D. White, Jr.