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 ZIEMANN, D. L. Operating Reactors Branch 2

SUBJECT: Responds to NRC 791214 request re actions taken by util
 since 791030 meeting concerning disclosure of potential of
 turbine disk cracking. Operation of turbine & schedule of
 rotor insp program schedule are acceptable.

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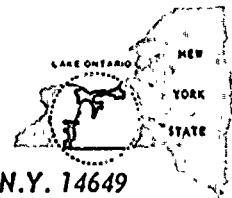
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LEON D. WHITE, JR.
VICE PRESIDENT

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December 26, 1979

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
ATTENTION: Mr. Dennis L. Ziemann, Chief
Operating Reactor Branch No. 2
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

SUBJECT: Turbine Disk Cracking

Dear Mr. Ziemann:

In response to the NRC request of December 14, 1979 regarding actions taken by RG&E since the October 30, 1979 meeting in Charlotte regarding disclosure of the potential for turbine disk cracking, the following determinations have been made:

1. Long before the October 30 meeting, RG&E had entered into an interchangeability program, in which all LP rotors were modified to fit both the LP-1 and the LP-2 turbines. As a result of this program, a spare rotor, LP-C, was manufactured and delivered in 1978. This rotor was placed in service May 21, 1978 in the LP-2 turbine. The calendar months of service is now 19. This new rotor underwent a thorough "wet mag particle" inspection (including the entire bore and keyway area) and a UT inspection of the forgings during the manufacturing process, prior to installation. Based on operating experience, and consistent with recent inspection findings, it is unlikely that any crack indications should appear in the new rotor in this short time period.
2. The rotor now in the LP-1 turbine is the LP-B rotor which was originally installed in the LP-2 turbine. This LP-B rotor had been sent in 1978 to the Westinghouse turbine factory in Charlotte to have three new rows of blades installed, and other modifications made. It was then installed in the LP-1 turbine in April 1979. During the refurbishing, a magnetic particle inspection was done on the rotor. Also, RG&E

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TO Mr. Dennis L. Ziemann

has contracted with Westinghouse to perform a comprehensive UT inspection of this rotor during the Spring 1980 refueling shutdown.

3. The LP-A rotor taken from LP-1 in 1979 has been refurbished in the Westinghouse turbine factory in Charlotte and is awaiting installation of a coupling. After the October meeting, the keyway side of the disks were inspected and found to be free of any crack indications. This inspection technique was qualified by a technician from RG&E. The upstream side of these disks will be inspected as soon as technicians become available shortly after January 1. The fact that this nine year old rotor was found to be free of crack indications provides strong evidence that the other rotors are similarly defect-free. The completion of the UT inspection of LP-A in January should confirm this.

These above-stated reasons allow RG&E to conclude that operation of the turbine as presently in service, and the schedule of the rotor inspection program, are acceptable.

Very truly yours,

Leon D. White, Jr.

Leon D. White, Jr.
Vice President

LDW:mep

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