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 FACIL:50-244 Robert Emmet Ginna Nuclear Plant, Unit 1, Rochester G. 05000244
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 KOBER,R.W. Rochester Gas & Electric Corp.
 RECIP.NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
 ZWOLINSKI,J.A. Operating Reactors Branch 5

SUBJECT: Requests deviation from NRC 841104 amend to License DPR-18
 requiring use of portable funnel for inserting fuel
 assemblies into storage location, per J Cook 841205 telcon.
 Use of load cell to provide indication suggested.

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ROGER W. KOBER
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December 6, 1984

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Attention: Mr. John A. Zwolinski, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch No. 5
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Subject: Spent Fuel Storage and Handling
R. E. Ginna Nuclear Power Plant
Docket No. 50-244

Dear Mr. Zwolinski:

By your letter of November 14, 1984, an amendment to our operating license was approved to increase the spent fuel storage capacity. In the attached safety evaluation, the staff noted that the licensee had committed to using a portable funnel for inserting the fuel assemblies into a storage location. The purpose of this letter is to formally request a deviation from that requirement. This request was verbally reviewed and approved by the NRC Staff per a telephone conversation between Mr. John Cook and Mr. George Dick on December 5, 1984.

A portable funnel and handling tool was fabricated in anticipation of using it to insert fuel assemblies into the Region 2 storage locations. However, because of excellent results of drag tests upon completion of the modification of the first rack, and the relatively close fit up tolerances for the portable funnel, it is our desire to have the option not to use the funnel during fuel handling operations. A load cell would be used to provide indication to the hoist operator of any interference between the storage cell and the fuel assembly during insertion. This indication will allow the operator to adjust the position of the fuel assembly to prevent damage and continue with the insertion into the storage location.

Any potential damage to a fuel assembly during handling operations is bounded by the consequences of the fuel assembly handling accident reviewed in the Staff safety evaluation report referenced above.

Very truly yours,

Roger W. Kober
Roger W. Kober

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