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 FACIL: 50-244 Robert Emmet Ginna Nuclear Plant, Unit 1, Rochester G. 05000244
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 RECIP. NAME: RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
 CRUTCHFIELD, D. Operating Reactors Branch 5

SUBJECT: Responds to NRC 810708 telcon re boron dilution at shutdown.
 Existing plant procedures combined w/generic Westinghouse
 criteria allow adequate time for termination of dilution
 event before return to critical occurs.

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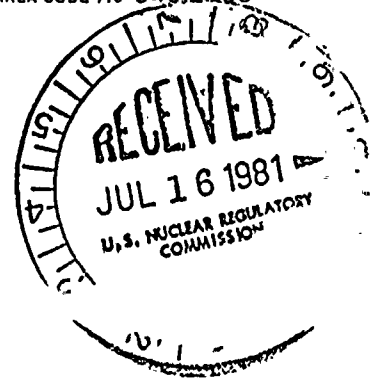
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JOHN E. MAIER
VICE PRESIDENT

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July 13, 1981



Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Attention: Mr. Dennis M. Crutchfield, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch No. 5
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Subject: Inadvertent Boron Dilution at Shutdown
R. E. Ginna Nuclear Power Plant
Docket No. 50-244

Dear Mr. Crutchfield:

This letter is in response to a telephone conversation on July 8, 1981 with you and members of your staff concerning boron dilution at shutdown.

Inadvertent boron dilution at shutdown has been generally regarded as an event which can be identified and terminated by operator action prior to a return to critical. In the process of investigating this potential event for new plant licensing, Westinghouse determined that under certain shutdown conditions with certain assumed dilution rates, adequate time for operator action to prevent a return to critical may not be available. Therefore, in a July 9, 1980 Westinghouse letter to Rochester Gas and Electric Corporation (RG&E), Westinghouse presented generic criteria which if followed would allow the plant operator fifteen minutes from the initiation of a dilution event to terminate the event before a return to critical occurs.

Existing RG&E procedures require a boron concentration equivalent to a 2% Δp shutdown margin prior to going below 500°F. Applying the 2% shutdown margin and a maximum dilution rate of 120 gpm to the generic Westinghouse criteria results in at least 15 minutes.

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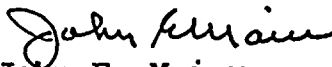
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DATE July 9, 1981
TO Mr. Dennis M. Crutchfield

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In summary, the existing procedures at Ginna combined with the generic Westinghouse criteria result in at least 15 minutes from the initiation of a dilution event until a return to critical.

Very truly yours,


John E. Maier