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SUBJECT: Special rept: on 950712, failure of loose part detection sys channel.

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GO2-95-156

Docket No. 50-397

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555

Gentlemen:

Subject: **WNP-2, OPERATING LICENSE NPF-21**
SPECIAL REPORT: LOOSE PART DETECTION SYSTEM CHANNEL
FAILURE

This special report is submitted pursuant to the requirements of WNP-2 Technical Specification 3.3.7.10, "Loose-Part Detection System", which requires that the Loose Part Detection System (LPDS) be operable during Modes 1 and 2. The associated Action statement requires that a Special Report be submitted if one or more LPDS channels are inoperable for more than 30 days. One of the ten channels of the LPDS has been inoperable since July 12, 1995.

The LPDS monitors the reactor pressure vessel (RPV) for internal loose parts per Regulatory Guide 1.133. Ten permanently mounted accelerometers are installed in various locations in the RPV and connected piping. A signal of twice normal background for any accelerometer will generate an alarm in the Main Control Room.

Technical Specification 3.3.7.10 requires performance of a daily functional check of each of the ten channels to verify operability of the system. During the daily check on July 12, 1995, LPDS Channel Number 4 which monitors one of the Reactor Feedwater lines failed due to electrical "noise," requiring that the channel be declared inoperable. The other nine channels were tested with satisfactory results. The investigation determined that the failure is intermittent and not in wiring or equipment accessible during reactor operation. The probable cause is an intermittent fault in the equipment or cabling located inside Primary Containment.

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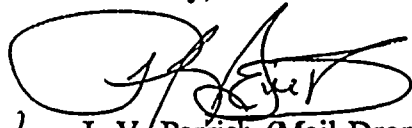
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Although the ability to detect loose parts in the affected feedwater line is impaired, the remaining nine channels are not impacted. Therefore, WNP-2 will continue to monitor these LPDS channels and perform the required surveillance tests. Channel Number 4 will remain inoperable until the next forced or scheduled outage when the Primary Containment is de-inerted for other work. Should LPDS Channel Number 4 repairs not be completed prior to completion of the next forced outage, repair efforts will continue when the Primary Containment is accessible during subsequent outages.

Should you have any questions or desire additional information regarding this matter, please call me or D. A. Swank at (509) 377-4563.

Sincerely,



for J. V. Parrish (Mail Drop 1023)

Vice President, Nuclear Operations

CJF/ml

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