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June 29, 1979
JPN-79-39

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Attention: Mr. Thomas A. Ippolito, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch No. 3
Division of Operating Reactors

Subject: James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant
Docket No. 50-333
Schedule for the Implementation and Resolution of the Mark I Containment Long-Term Program

Dear Sir:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's letter of March 12, 1979, requested the Authority to provide a schedule for the installation and completion of major plant modifications deemed necessary to conform to the ongoing Mark I Long-Term Program (LTP) acceptance criteria.

Based on our preliminary evaluation using the loading information currently available from the Mark I LTP, we have determined that the major modifications needed to conform to the LTP acceptance criteria consist of the installation of the vent-header deflectors, anchoring the support columns (torus column tie down), torus shell to column connection reinforcement and torus support column reinforcement. These major modifications shall be installed by the end of December 1980. Any other modifications which may arise during the course of our LTP Plant Unique Analysis (PUA), if deemed major and if time permits, shall also be completed by the end of December 1980, and if deemed minor (the lack of such modification would not violate containment integrity), shall be completed by the end of December 1981.

The Commission's letter of March 12, 1979, contained, as an enclosure, a report addressing the NRC staff evaluation of the threshold suppression pool temperature (i.e., stability limit) as applicable to ramshead devices for safety/relief valve devices. Subsequent to our review of the report, representatives of the

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Authority met with the NRC staff on April 3, 1979, to address the items stated in the report.

As indicated at the April 3, 1979 meeting, based on the results of the current evaluation, plant unique tests and previous evaluations, the JAF Plant Torus Support Systems conform to the LTP acceptance criteria with ramsheads as the S/RV discharge devices.

The replacement of ramsheads with T-quenchers as the S/RV discharge devices should not fall under the realm of the Mark I LTP, as it is neither a major nor a minor modification from the Mark I LTP standpoint. However, the Authority recognizes that T-quenchers may have to be installed at JAFNPP towards the resolution of generic ATWS concerns.

It is our estimate that the JAF unit would have to be shut down an additional two (2) months beyond the time required for normal shutdown to accomplish routine maintenance and refueling, to install the T-quenchers, thus depriving the consumers the economic benefits of the JAFNPP. As stated earlier because the health and safety of the public will not be unduly endangered by continued operation with ramsheads as the S/RV discharge devices, and in order to avoid unnecessary expense and hardship to the Authority customers, we have scheduled the installation of the T-quenchers in anticipation of resolution of the generic ATWS issue. Our schedule will allow for completion of this program by the end of December, 1982. However, if it can be shown prior to the 1982 that the Tee-Quencher is not required the Authority will submit justification for not installing the Tee-Quenchers.

In conclusion, we have determined that the major modifications stated above are deemed necessary towards the conformance to the LTP acceptance criteria and shall be installed by the end of December 1982.

Very truly yours,

Paul J. Early
Assistant Chief Engineer-Projects