



ARKANSAS POWER & LIGHT COMPANY  
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October 25, 1979

1-109-22  
2-109-20

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
ATTN: Mr. R. W. Reid, Chief  
Operating Reactors Branch #4  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20555

Subject: Arkansas Nuclear One-Units 1 & 2  
Docket Nos. 50-313 & 50-368  
License Nos. DPR-51 & NPF-6  
Containment Purging During Operation  
(File: 1510, 2-1510)

Gentlemen:

By letter dated November 28, 1978, the Commission (NRC) requested all licensees of operating reactors to respond to generic concerns about containment purging and venting during normal plant operation. Our letter of January 30, 1979, informed your staff of our intentions to justify purging for ninety hours per year for Arkansas Nuclear One-Unit 1 (ANO-1) and committed us to that limit during your review of our submittal. Our letter of April 2, 1979, provided that justification and proposed Technical Specifications to limit purging during operation for ANO-1.

Arkansas Power & Light is satisfied that the bases for the proposed Technical Specifications to limit purging of ANO-1 during power operation to no more than ninety hours per year are adequate to ensure the health and safety of the public.

Mr. D. G. Eisenhower's letter of September 27, 1979, distributed Guidelines for Demonstration of Operability of Purge and Vent Valves and requested that we initiate action on an expedited basis to ensure that containment vent and purge valves at ANO meet these guidelines. We have requested a proposal from our purge valve manufacturer for a qualification program for the valves and operators in service at ANO-1,

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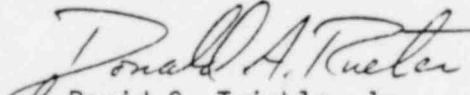
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and we may implement this program, or some other alternative, depending on the cost-benefit ratio and other factors. However, we must reiterate that we are satisfied that the bases are adequate to justify purging of ANO-1 during power operation for ninety hours per year.

Arkansas Nuclear One-Unit 2 (ANO-2) Technical Specifications prohibit purging during power operation. Valve qualification will be addressed for ANO-2 when and if we submit a Technical Specification change request on this subject.

Very truly yours,

  
for David C. Trimble, Jr.  
Manager, Licensing

DCT:ERG:tw

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