

PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY

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November 6, 1979

Docket Nos.: DPR-44 & DPR-56

Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Attn: Mr. Thomas A. Ippolito, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch No. 3
Division of Operating Reactors
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Reference: Letter dated 10/22/79, Stanley Ragone to
Harold R. Denton; Subject: RETRAN Code

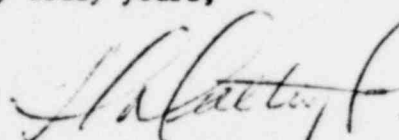
Dear Mr. Denton:

Under the sponsorship of the Electric Power Research Institute, Philadelphia Electric Company has participated, with a number of other utilities, in the development of the reactor transient analysis computer code entitled RETRAN. Philadelphia Electric has joined with these utilities in requesting NRC review of RETRAN and issuance of a Safety Evaluation Report. This request for generic review of RETRAN was transmitted to you in the above referenced letter. Philadelphia Electric is committed to paying a proportionate share, with the utilities identified, of the NRC review fee.

During the last several years, Philadelphia Electric has been actively developing in-house core and safety analysis capability. This program, which anticipates acceptability of the RETRAN code for reactor transients, involves a step by step approach in analyzing reactor transients and filtering this information into operator training programs. In addition, we intend to use RETRAN to support alternate reactor operations which may involve license amendment requests or supportable on a 10 CFR 50.59 basis. Such evaluations are expected in the near term, 1980-1981. In the longer term, we expect to utilize RETRAN for reload fuel licensing. Currently, RETRAN is being used to verify vendor supplied reload analyses. It is our ultimate goal to perform reload safety evaluations to permit refueling on a 10 CFR 50.59 basis utilizing the RETRAN code.

Should you have any questions on this matter, we will be pleased to discuss it further with you.

Very truly yours,



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