ARKANSAS POWER & LIGHT COMPANY
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July 7, 1981

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Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
ATTN: Mr. J. F. Stolz, Chief
Light Water Reactors Branch #1
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

SUBJECT: Arkansas Nuclear One-Unit 1
Docket No. 50-313
License No. DPR 51
Degraded Grid Voltage
(File: 1510)

Gentlemen:

In response to your letter of June 9, 1981, the following information is provided.

During a telecon on June 30, 1981, between Mr. J.T. Enos et.al. of my staff and Mssrs. O. Saied and J. Phillips, a substantial review of background material applicable to question 1 was conducted. During this review, all parties involved agreed sufficient information currently exists on the Docket to address the item 1 concerns and the question was therefore withdrawn. As a note, we pointed out reference 4 in your above letter is incorrect as that letter was superceded by our letter dated September 10, 1979.

In response to Item 2, we do not, at this time, have the capability to conduct such a test as requested. The computer code and methodology used in our calculations was discussed with the staff in a meeting in February, 1979, and was well received as a conservative approach. We do not completely understand the benefit to be gained by integrally verifying our computer code. Even in the highly unlikely event the code is nonconservative, substantial conservatism was incorporated in the data inputs. The physical protective hardware as currently installed and tested (in accordance with the Technical Specifications) will function at the proper time and voltage level to assure protection of safety equipment irrespective of computer voltage predictions. Therefore, even if a verification of the computer code demonstrated some amount of error, such would not require hardware or logic modification to accomodate the difference.

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We are investigating the possibility of conducting such a test in an effort to determine what monitoring equipment would have to be installed and what mode(s) of operation would allow such a test. We request, however, you review the necessity of such a test in light of the above information. If your review indicates a genuine need for the test to assure the safe operation of the plant, we will develop a test program to the best of our capability and provide you a schedule at that time.

Very truly yours,

Donald A Ruter

for David C. Trimble,
Manager, Licensing

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