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April 20, 1990

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Station P1-137
Washington, D.C. 20555

Attention: Document Control Desk

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: Grand Gulf Nuclear Station
Unit 1
Docket No. 50-416
License No. NPF-29
Special Report 90-001-00
Inoperability of Accident
Monitor Exceeds 72 Hours
AECM-90/0073

The Turbine Building Ventilation Exhaust Accident Range radiation monitor was removed from service on April 3, 1990 to perform the annual calibration as required by Technical Specification Table 4.3.7.5-1. During the sample flow calculation section of the surveillance, high flow was observed for the Noble Gas Pallet portion of the monitor. The condition was documented and an investigation was initiated. The monitor was inoperable for approximately 78 hours for corrective maintenance and testing. This Special Report is being submitted pursuant to Action 81 of Technical Specification Table 3.3.7.5-1 since the instrument channel inoperability exceeded 72 hours.

During the trouble shooting process, several potential locations for inleakage into the system were identified and corrected. It was determined that the high flow rate was primarily due to inleakage at the bulk filter assembly and the monitor sample pump. The filter assembly and sample pump were replaced.

After replacing these components, the system was pressurized to approximately 5 psi to verify all leaks had been identified and secured. The calibration surveillance was completed and all data was acceptable.

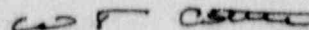
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The preplanned alternate method of monitoring as required by Action 81 was to obtain and analyze grab samples in accordance with plant procedures if the General Electric (GE) Noble Gas Effluent Monitor exceeded a specified count rate. The GE Noble Gas Effluent Monitor was operable during this time period and did not exceed the specified count rate. The monitor retested satisfactory and was restored to service on April 6, 1990.

Yours truly,



WTC:cg

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