



Public Service
Company of Colorado
P.O. Box 840
Denver CO 80201-0840

July 2, 1990
Fort St. Vrain
Unit No. 1
P-90212

A. Clegg Crawford
Vice President
Nuclear Operations

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555

Attention: Mr. Seymour H. Weiss, Director
Non-Power Reactor, Decommissioning and
Environmental Project Directorate

Docket No. 50-267

SUBJECT: 'B' Helium Circulator Removal

REFERENCES: 1. NRC Letter, Weiss to Crawford, dated 6/21/90
(G-90144)
2. PSC Letter, Crawford to Weiss, dated 5/22/90
(P-90159)

Dear Mr. Weiss:

Public Service Company of Colorado (PSC) is planning to remove the 'B' helium circulator from the Fort St. Vrain (FSV) prestressed concrete reactor vessel (PCRVR) in a manner similar to previous circulator maintenance outages. The NRC provided guidance for circulator removal in Reference 1, and at the present time, PSC agrees to wait for a possession-only license before removing both Loop I helium circulators. However, we consider that removal of a single helium circulator can be safely undertaken in accordance with existing requirements.

The 'B' helium circulator is in primary coolant Loop I which, as indicated in Reference 2, is not needed to maintain required core conditions during shutdown and defueling. 'B' helium circulator's helium actuated shutdown seal system has a leak. This leak does not affect the shutdown seal's ability to maintain the primary seal, but the leakage of clean helium through the actuation system is an economic consideration for PSC.

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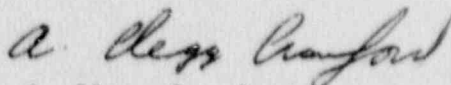
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PSC plans to remove the 'B' helium circulator using equipment, procedures, and the same process as previous circulator maintenance outages, except that we do not plan to reinstall a helium circulator in the PCRV penetration. The PCRV penetration will be sealed with the previously utilized special ball valve device during actual circulator removal operations, and with a pressure sealing device at other times. The removed helium circulator will be stored on-site, until receipt of Fort St. Vrain's possession-only license.

This specific helium circulator maintenance activity description is being submitted as discussed between Mr. H. L. Brey (PSC) and Mr. S. H. Weiss (NRC) on June 26, 1990. PSC considers that this maintenance activity should be undertaken similar to past circulator maintenance activities. We are planning to begin circulator removal activities before mid-July. Accordingly, PSC requests timely acknowledgement of NRC concurrence with this undertaking.

If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Mr. M. H. Holmes at (303) 480-6960.

Very truly yours,



A. Clegg Crawford
Vice President
Nuclear Operations

ACC/SWC/lmb

cc: Regional Administrator, Region IV
ATTN: Mr. J. B. Baird
Technical Assistant
Division of Reactor Projects

Mr. Robert Farrell
Senior Resident Inspector
Fort St. Vrain