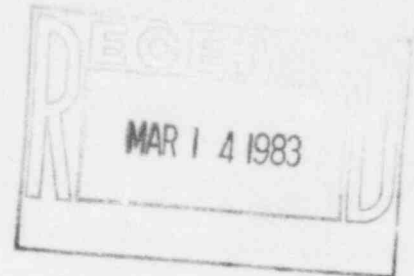




# Public Service Company of Colorado

16805 Road 19 1/2, Platteville, Colorado 80651-9298

March 9, 1983  
Fort St. Vrain  
Unit No. 1  
P-83098



Mr. Philip C. Wagner, Project Manager  
Region IV  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
611 Ryan Plaza Drive  
Suite 1000  
Arlington, Texas 76011

Dear Mr. Wagner:

As you are aware, Fort St. Vrain experienced an incident at approximately 0800 hours on March 9, 1983, which caused the loss of use of the Unit Auxiliary Transformer. Technical Specification LCO 4.6.1(a) requires that both the Unit Auxiliary Transformer and the Reserve Auxiliary Transformer be operable for unrestricted reactor operation at power. A 24-hour period is allowed for either transformer to be out of service provided that both diesel generator sets are tested and are operable. Since the duration for which the Unit Auxiliary Transformer will not be available is not known at this time, but will in any event exceed the 24-hour limitation imposed by LCO 4.6.1(a), we propose to operate the reactor at up to 30% power for the purposes of primary coolant clean-up.

Sources of electrical power available at Fort St. Vrain other than the Unit Auxiliary Transformer include:

1. The Reserve Auxiliary Transformer (RAT) - this transformer is used for plant startup and normally supplies plant shutdown auxiliary electrical requirements. It also functions as a backup to the Unit Auxiliary Transformer.
2. Emergency Diesel Generator Sets - two standby diesel generator sets provide an alternate on-site electrical power supply, either of which has adequate capacity to power all electrical auxiliaries that are essential for shutdown cooling.
3. Five 230 KV Transmission Lines - these transmission lines are capable of supplying independent, redundant off-site power to either or both of two switchyard busses which, in turn, can supply all on-site power.

4. Alternate Cooling Method Diesel Generator - this diesel generator unit is capable of supplying electrical power to load centers and motor control centers which are completely independent of the remainder of the plant electrical distribution system.

Based upon the availability of electrical power as outlined above, the objectives of LCO 4.6.1 to assure that an adequate source of power is available to operate the plant during normal operation, for cooling during shutdown, and for operation of engineered safeguards in emergency situations is met.

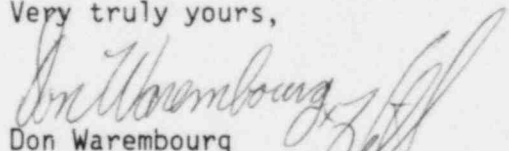
We anticipate that it will require approximately ten days to complete performance of tests on the Unit Auxiliary Transformer and to repair associated bus ducts. During the period from March 10 through March 20, 1983, we would propose to operate utilizing the intent of LCO 4.6.1 with the Unit Auxiliary Transformer out of service and with the following compensatory actions:

1. Reactor operation at less than 30% thermal power.
2. Once each 24 hours, start both diesel generator sets to verify operability, shut the units down, and leave controls in the automatic mode.
3. Continued operability of all three 480V a-c essential busses.

This mode of operation has been reviewed by the Plant Operations Review Committee with the finding that the change is safety significant because it involves a change to the Technical Specifications, but that the change is not an unreviewed safety question since loss of the Unit Auxiliary Transformer has been analyzed in the FSAR.

A formal Technical Specification change and attendant 10CFR170 Class III fees will be submitted under separate correspondence.

Very truly yours,

  
Don Warembourg  
Manager, Nuclear Production

DW/clS