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May 12, 1983

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Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
Director of Inspection and Enforcement  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Attention: Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Mr. Richard DeYoung, Director -  
Office of Inspection and Enforcement

Subject: James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant  
Docket No. 50-333  
Scram Discharge Volume System Orders

- References:
1. NRC letter regarding I.E. Bulletin No. 80-17 Confirmatory Order, V. Stello to G.T. Berry, October 2, 1980.
  2. NRC letter regarding Order for Modification of License Concerning BWR Scram Discharge Systems, T.A. Ippolito to G.T. Berry, January 9, 1981.
  3. PASNY letter, J.P. Bayne to T.A. Ippolito, September 11, 1981 (JPN-81-69).

Dear Sir:

The NRC has issued two Orders relating to short-term modifications of FitzPatrick's scram discharge volume system. The first required that the Authority "install and make operable a system to continuously monitor water levels in all scram discharge volumes" by December 1, 1980 (Reference 1). The second required the installation of "an automatic system to initiate control rod insertion on low pressure in the control air header" by April 9, 1981 (Reference 2). Both of these systems have been installed at FitzPatrick.

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In Reference 3, the Authority informed the NRC of plans to install long-term modifications to the scram discharge volume system that would render the existing air dump modification unnecessary. In that letter, we requested that you amend the January 9, 1981 Order to permit removal of the air dump modification contingent upon the completion of the long-term modifications. We have not received a response to that request.

Long-term modifications of the scram discharge volume system are now scheduled for the forthcoming Reload 5/Cycle 6 outage. This outage is expected to start in early June of this year and to extend at least seventy-five days.

The planned modifications will improve scram discharge volume system hydraulic coupling by replacing the present instrument volume with two new instrument volumes, one for each of the scram discharge headers. The size of the pipe from the scram discharge volume to the instrument volumes will be increased from two to ten inches. In addition, each instrument volume will be equipped with redundant and diverse level instruments in a one-out-of-two-twice logic to prevent spurious scram signals.

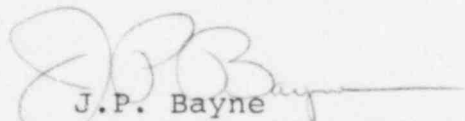
A description of the differences between the FitzPatrick modification and the NRC's generic SER will be submitted under separate cover. Proposed changes to the FitzPatrick Technical Specifications to address these modifications will also be provided separately.

As a result of these modifications, the Authority will remove both of the short-term modifications. Therefore, we request that the NRC amend or lift its October 2, 1980 and January 9, 1981 Orders by no later than June 30, 1983. Your prompt response to this request will allow us to make appropriate arrangements for our refueling outage.

In support of this request, included with this letter is a report which describes the scram instrument volume instrumentation in greater detail.

If you need any further information, please contact Mr. J.A. Gray, Jr. of my staff.

Very truly yours,



J.P. Bayne  
Executive Vice President  
Nuclear Generation

cc: Mr. J. Linville  
Resident Inspector  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
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