

ROCHESTER GAS AND ELECTRIC CORPORATION • 89 EAST AVENUE, ROCHESTER, N.Y. 14604

KEITH W. AMBER
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT
ELECTRIC AND STEAM

TELEPHONE 50-244
AREA CODE YR 546 2700

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October 3, 1972

Mr. Donald J. Skovholt
Assistant Director for Operating Reactors
Directorate of Licensing
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
7920 Norfolk Avenue
Bethesda, Maryland 20014



Subject: AEC Letter of August 8, 1972, Concerning the
"Flooding of Critical Equipment"

Dear Mr. Skovholt:

Renewed concern involving the degradation of safeguards equipment by failure of non-safeguard components resulted in the following findings with regards to the Ginna nuclear power station. It is possible that safeguard equipment could be damaged by flooding in the unusual circumstance that a large leak occurred in the circulating water system. While other non-safeguard fluid systems are located in the turbine hall, their smaller volume and fluid handling capacity would not endanger the safeguards systems if a rupture occurred. These systems for instance include the turbine oil system, condensate and feedwater system, the fire service system, and the turbine hydraulic control system. The safeguard equipment which could sustain damage from a leak in the circulating water system is located in both the area adjacent to the turbine hall and in the screen house.

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Although the safeguards equipment near the turbine hall is inside of seismic Class I structures, these areas communicate with the turbine hall through doorways and, thus, could be flooded if the turbine hall were flooded. The safeguards near the turbine hall which could be affected in common mode failure are the diesel generators, the D.C. power supply (including batteries and chargers) and the one steam driven and two motor driven auxiliary feed-water pumps.

The safeguards equipment in the screen house includes the redundant service water pumps and the safeguard buses 17 and 18.

In order to avoid damage to safeguards equipment, two basic changes are being made. A two out of three redundant logic trip of the circulating

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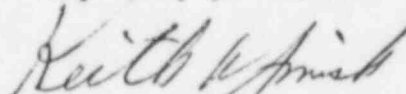
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DATE October 3, 1972
TO D.J. Skovholt

pumps is to be installed in both the condenser pit in the turbine hall and the circulating water pit in the screen house. In addition, curbs are to be installed at the entrances of rooms and areas that contain safeguards equipment. These curbs will be sized to prevent water from non-safeguard equipment from flooding areas containing safeguard equipment.

Design work is being done to incorporate the above changes into the plant. As designs are completed, material will be ordered and installed as soon as it becomes available. We anticipate that actual installation will be completed on or before March 1, 1973.

Very truly yours,


Keith W. Amish

xc: LeBoeuf, Lamb, Leiby & MacRae