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C321-91-2365
January 15, 1992

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Sir:

Subject: Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station
Docket No. 50-219
Request for Relief from ASME XI
Repair Requirements for Class 3 Piping

This letter is being written pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55(a)(g)(5)(iii) to request temporary relief from the ASME Code Repair Requirements defined in Section XI for Class 3 piping.

During the performance of excavation and inspection of underground pipe in the condensate transfer system, a section of piping was discovered which exhibited external pitting type corrosion. The pipe in this portion of the condensate transfer system is 10 inches in diameter and constructed of aluminum. The design pressure is 50 psig. NDE examinations of the pipe in the vicinity of the pitting corrosion revealed the pipe to be at nominal thickness, except for the identified pits. The decision was made to clean the corrosion and apply a protective coating.

During the cleaning process, a small pit started to weep water. Isolation and draining of this portion of the system is not possible under the Oyster Creek Technical Specifications while at power. A piece of gasketing material was placed on the pipe and secured with a stainless steel clamp. Two additional clamps were installed in the immediate vicinity to provide additional strength to the section of piping. Calculations concluded that the strength of the installed clamp exceeded the strength of the pre-existent pipe.

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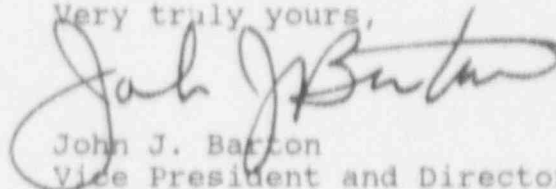
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In accordance with Generic Letter 90-05, this leak has been determined to be a "through-wall flaw", and therefore, the temporary repair would qualify for relief from permanent repair until the next refueling outage. The section of piping containing the weepage has been scheduled for replacement during the next outage of sufficient duration, not to exceed the next refueling outage presently scheduled for January 1993.

Should you have any questions, please contact Mr. John Rogers, Oyster Creek Licensing Engineer at 609-971-4893.

Very truly yours,



John J. Barton
Vice President and Director
Oyster Creek

JJD/JR:jc

cc: Administrator, Region 1
Senior NRC Resident Inspector
Oyster Creek NRC Project Manager