



ARKANSAS POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

FIRST COMMERCIAL BUILDING/P.O. BOX 551/LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72203/(501) 371-4422

January 25, 1985

JOHN M. GRIFFIN
Senior Vice President
Energy Supply

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Robert B. Minogue, Director
Office of Nuclear Regulatory
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555

SUBJECT: Arkansas Nuclear One - Unit 1
Docket No. 50-313
License No. DPR-51
Follow-On Testing to the Integral
System Test (IST) Program

Gentlemen:

I have received and reviewed your letter to me dated December 6, 1984, as well as Mr. Michael Young's letter dated January 14, 1985, to the Program Management Group members. My letter is provided as the B&W Owners Group (BWO) Executive Committee's response to both letters.

These letters discuss the possibility of expanding the scope of the Integral System Testing (IST) Program to consider 100% scaled power configuration in an effort to address what you describe as additional data needs and suggested a meeting to discuss such.

The BWO is always willing to meet and discuss any relevant issue or program when reasonably and logically developed. In this case, we suggest a small meeting with a few members of our Executive Committee, Mr. Harold Denton, and yourself. We will be happy to participate in such a meeting as we feel some further investigation into your concerns is needed. Following such a meeting, we will be in a much better position to evaluate the benefits of an expanded program and to discuss these in more detail at a later meeting.

I wish to note that the scope of the IST program was very thoroughly evaluated by the Testing Advisory Group (TAG) before the program began. The clearly defined scope developed by the TAG was approved by NRC, EPRI, B&W, and the B&W Owners. During the development of the IST scope, the TAG specifically evaluated a 100% scaled power configuration and concluded that such was not necessary.

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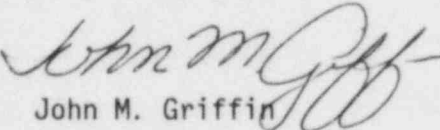
January 25, 1985

We are not aware, at this time, of any information that has become available since initiation of the program that indicates the need to change the TAG decision with regard to 100% scaled power.

The IST program was developed to provide a means to benchmark codes for use in analyzing small break LOCA events in B&W plants. As this benchmarking effort has not yet started, it seems premature to be developing an expansion of scope when the results of the initial program are not yet available. For these reasons, we think it is inappropriate, at this time, to begin a technical discussion of an expanded scope in such detail as proposed by Mr. Young in his letter dated January 14, 1985.

Please contact me at your earliest convenience to arrange the meeting as suggested with you and Mr. Denton.

Very truly yours,


John M. Griffin

JMG:JTE:ds

cc: B&W Owners Group Executive Committee
B&W Owners Group Steering Committee
B&W Owners Group Analysis Committee
Harold Denton, NRC
N. Prasad Kadambi, NRC