

William J. Cahill, Jr.
Chief Nuclear Officer

April 24, 1996
JPN-96-015

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Mail Station P1-137
Washington, D.C. 20555

SUBJECT: James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant
Docket No. 50-333
**Implementation of Interim Recommendations of
BWR Owners' Group Regulatory Response Group Regarding
Viton CRD SSPV Response Time Delay**

- References:
1. BWROG-96012-30, "Interim Recommendations of BWR Owners' Group Regulatory Response Group Regarding Viton CRD SSPV Response Time Delay," dated February 16, 1996
 2. BWROG-96020-30, "Implementation of Interim Recommendations of BWR Owners' Group Regulatory Response Group Regarding Viton CRD SSPV Response Time Delay," dated February 23, 1996

Dear Sir:

On February 16, 1996, the Boiling Water Reactor Owners Group (BWROG) Regulatory Response Group (RRG) provided guidance (Reference 1) to utilities on testing of dual-type Automatic Switch Company (ASCO) Scram Solenoid Pilot Valves (SSPVs) with viton internals and testing of the Alternate Rod Insertion (ARI) system.

The Authority will use this guidance at FitzPatrick. Specifically, the 16 week surveillance test will include a representative sample of viton SSPV control rods. There are currently no Buna-N SSPV control rods at FitzPatrick. A reference sample of viton SSPVs, consisting of seven control rods, will be tested on an eight week surveillance test interval.

The Authority is a member of the BWROG committee addressing the viton SSPV issue. Data gathered from both the representative and reference samples will be sent to the committee and evaluated against industry and plant-specific data. Once adequate data is available, the committee plans to provide additional recommendations related to viton SSPV performance.

FitzPatrick will continue to test the ARI system to assure proper function. This test is performed once an operating cycle per the FitzPatrick surveillance test program.

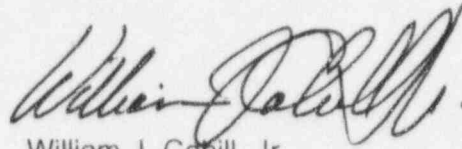
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BWROG-96020-30 (Reference 2) requested that licensees provide a written response to the NRC on how they intend to address the Regulatory Response Group (RRG) interim recommendations. This letter fulfills the Reference 2 request.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. C. Faison.

Very Truly Yours,



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cc: Regional Administrator
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