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INDEPENDENT REVIEWS, AUDITS,
AND TECHNICAL ANALYSES

Mr. Joseph M. Felton, Director
Division of Rules and Records
Office of Administration
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
ACT REQUEST

FOIA-84-901

Rec'd 12-10-84

Dear Mr. Felton:

I have had extensive conversations with the NRC staff, concerning Unresolved Safety Issue #23, which relates to the loss of service of reactor coolant pumps (RCP's). However, I have not been able to obtain the identity of NRC-originated or -sponsored documents that...

1. Discuss the mode of failure of the RCP seals, and/or...
2. Identify the probable causes of failure of these seals, and/or...
3. Mention possible remedies for failures of the seals.

I appreciate that many documents have been generated on the subject of failure of reactor pump seals. My request should not be interpreted as a broad one. I am not interested, for example, in the NRC internal documents pertaining to administration of study contracts on the subject, ACRS discussions of the subject, LER's concerning such failures, etc. I am interested only in those documents that could assist someone attempting to reduce his involvement in this problem area. If the three topics -- mode of failure, probable causes, and possible remedies -- are kept in mind by those who respond to this request, I trust that a wide search will be avoided. To further constrain the request, no documentation

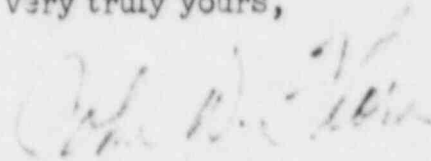
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dated prior to 1980 should be considered.

Although I do not have a clear understanding of a related request, because of the necessity to abbreviate it, the weekly report to the Commissioners of November 9 mentioned FOIA request 84-811, which bears on this subject. That reference might assist your office to further limit this search.

Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John W. Felton". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "J".