



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

February 5, 1993

Docket No. 50-333

Mr. John C. Brons, President and
Chief Operating Officer
New York Power Authority
James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant
123 Main Street
White Plains, New York 10601

Dear Mr. Brons:

On January 26-28, 1993, NRC senior managers met to evaluate the nuclear safety performance of operating reactors, fuel facilities, and other materials licensees. The NRC conducts this meeting semiannually to determine if the safety performance of the various licensees exhibits sufficient weaknesses to warrant increased NRC attention. In addition, at this meeting, senior managers identify specific plants that have demonstrated a level of safety performance that deserves formal recognition. At the January 1993 Senior Management Meeting, the James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant was discussed. Based on our discussion, the FitzPatrick Plant will continue to be categorized as requiring close NRC monitoring.

A summary of the discussion is provided below:

The performance in operations, maintenance/surveillance, engineering/technical support and safety assessment/quality verification has improved since the last SALP period. The material condition of the facility has been substantially enhanced. The restart and power ascension at FitzPatrick has been well controlled and executed with very effective management oversight. Operators have used excellent formal communication and senior licensed operators have exhibited good command and control of activities.

However, FitzPatrick is starting up for the first time in over a year and the NRC has yet to see a sustained period of improved performance while at power. Therefore, the NRC plans to continue to closely monitor the programs and performance at FitzPatrick to assure continued progress.

An NRC Commission meeting, open to the public, has been scheduled to be held in the Commission Conference Room on February 9, 1993, at 2:30 p.m., Rockville, Maryland, to review the results of the latest meeting of NRC senior managers. Mr. Thomas T. Martin, the Region I Administrator, has discussed the bases for our conclusions with regard to FitzPatrick with members of your staff.

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Mr John C. Brons

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If you have any questions regarding this matter, do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

James M. Taylor

James M. Taylor
Executive Director
for Operations

cc: See next page

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PDR

RPEB R.F.

EDO R.F.

J. Taylor, EDO

J. Sniezek, DEDR

T. Murley, NRR

W. Bateman, OEDO

TMartin, RI

F. Miraglia, NRR

J. Partlow, NRR

W. Russell, NRR

R. Barrett, NRR

G. Zech, NRR

SECY

PA

CA

* See previous concurrence

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Mr. John C. Brons

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cc:

Mr. Gerald C. Goldstein
Assistant General Counsel
Power Authority of the State
of New York
1633 Broadway
New York, NY 10019

Ms. Donna Ross
New York State Energy Office
2 Empire State Plaza
16th Floor
Albany, NY 12223

Resident Inspector's Office
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Post Office Box 136
Lycoming, NY 13093

Mr. Harry P. Salmon, Jr.
Resident Manager
James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear
Power Plant
Post Office Box 41
Lycoming, NY 13093

Mr. J. A. Gray, Jr.
Director Nuclear Licensing - BWR
Power Authority of the State
of New York
123 Main Street
White Plains, NY 10601

Supervisor
Town of Scriba
Route 8, Box 382
Oswego, NY 13126

Mr. John C. Brons, President
Power Authority of the State
of New York
123 Main Street
White Plains, NY 10601

Charles Donaldson, Esquire
Assistant Attorney General
New York Department of Law
120 Broadway
New York, NY 10271

Regional Administrator, Region I
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, PA 19406