

Mr. Patrick M. Donnelly, Plant Manager  
Big Rock Point Plant  
Consumers Power Company  
10269 U.S. 31 North  
Charlevoix, MI 49720

October 2, 1996

SUBJECT: ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE INITIAL PRESSURE REGULATOR BELLOWS  
REPLACEMENT LETTER

Dear Mr. Donnelly,

We have reviewed your letter dated September 17, 1996, in which you informed the Commission of the replacement of the initial pressure regulator (IPR) bellows. Specifically, an IPR bellows with one operating cycle (about 12 months) will be installed in lieu of a new bellows. In addition, you stated that the recently installed bellows will be used until the 1997 refueling outage, and continued use beyond that will require additional review based on the root-cause evaluation results.

The staff concludes that replacement of the IPR bellows with one operating cycle is acceptable for operation until the 1997 refueling outage. With regards to the continued use of the recently replaced bellows beyond the 1997 refueling outage, additional justification needs to be provided to the staff for review. This is consistent with your letter of November 17, 1993, in which you committed to replace the bellows every refueling outage with a new, certified, radiographed bellows.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at (301) 415-1361.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Linh N. Tran, Project Manager  
Project Directorate III-1  
Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-155

cc: See next page

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Mr. Patrick M. Donnelly, Plant Manager

Big Rock Point Nuclear Plant

cc:

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