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MEMORANDUM FOR: Robert M. Bernero, Director
Division of Systems Integration

FROM: Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: SCHEDULE FOR RESOLVING AND COMPLETING GENERIC ISSUE
NO. 85 - RELIABILITY OF VACUUM BREAKERS CONNECTED
TO STEAM DISCHARGE LINES INSIDE BWR CONTAINMENTS

This memorandum approves of a priority ranking of "DROP" for Generic Issue No. 85, "Reliability of Vacuum Breakers Connected to Steam Discharge Lines Inside BWR Containments." Although there appears to be a large economic incentive for the industry to improve the reliability of these vacuum breakers, the potential for reducing core-melt frequency and risk is too small to warrant any regulatory action. The evaluation of the subject issue is provided in the enclosure.

In accordance with NRR Office Letter No. 40, "Management of Proposed Generic Issues," there is no resolution to this issue to be monitored by the Generic Issue Management Control System (GIMCS). However, the attached prioritization evaluation will be incorporated into NUREG-0933, "Prioritization of Generic Safety Issues," and is being sent to other NRC offices, the ACRS, and PDR for comments on the technical accuracy and completeness of the prioritization evaluation. Any changes as a result of comments will be coordinated with you.

Should you have any questions pertaining to the contents of this memorandum, please contact Louis Riani (24563).

Original signed by
Darrell G. Eisenhut

Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
Prioritization Evaluation

cc: See next page

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