

November 12, 2002

Mr. Michael R. Kansler  
Senior Vice President and  
Chief Operating Officer  
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.  
440 Hamilton Avenue  
White Plains, NY 10601

SUBJECT: BULLETIN 2002-01, "REACTOR PRESSURE VESSEL HEAD DEGRADATION AND REACTOR COOLANT PRESSURE BOUNDARY INTEGRITY," 15-DAY RESPONSE FOR INDIAN POINT NUCLEAR GENERATING UNIT NOS. 2 AND 3 (TAC NOS. MB4550 AND MB4551)

Dear Mr. Kansler:

On March 18, 2002, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued Bulletin 2002-01, "Reactor Pressure Vessel Head Degradation and Reactor Coolant Pressure Boundary Integrity," to the industry requesting that addressees provide information related to the structural integrity of the reactor coolant pressure boundary, including the reactor pressure vessel head, and the extent to which inspections have been undertaken to satisfy applicable regulatory requirements. In the Bulletin 2002-01, the NRC staff also required licensees to provide the basis for concluding that plans for future inspections of the reactor coolant pressure boundary would satisfy applicable regulatory requirements at their respective pressurized-water reactor plants. All addressees were requested to respond to Items 1.A. through E. within 15 days of the Bulletin's issuance, or to provide a written response to the NRC in accordance with the provisions of Title 10, Section 50.54(f), of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR 50.54(f)) if they are unable to provide the information or they cannot meet the requested completion dates.

You provided the 15-day response for Indian Point Nuclear Generating Unit Nos. 2 and 3 (IP2 and 3) by letter dated April 2, 2002. Subsequently, on May 15, 2002, you provided the information about the boric acid inspection program at IP2 and 3 that was required by Item 3 of the Bulletin to be submitted within 60 days of the date of the Bulletin. The NRC staff finds that you have provided the requested information, and has concluded that IP2 and 3 do not appear to have conditions similar to those which led to the degradation at the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station. However, the staff will shortly be issuing some questions regarding the information that was provided in your 60-day response in order to complete its full review of your response to Bulletin 2002-01.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Patrick D. Milano, Senior Project Manager, Section 1  
Project Directorate I  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-247 and 50-286

cc: See next page

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\*See previous concurrence

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