

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of Public Affairs  
Washington, DC 20555  
Phone 301-415-8200 Fax 301-415-2234  
Internet: opa@nrc.gov

No. 96-02

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
(Wednesday, January 3, 1996)

NRC STAFF PROPOSES TO FINE BALTIMORE GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY  
\$50,000 FOR ALLEGED VIOLATION OF SECURITY REGULATIONS AT  
ITS CALVERT CLIFFS NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

The staff of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has cited Baltimore Gas & Electric Company (BG&E) for an alleged violation of NRC requirements at its Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant near Lusby, Maryland. The staff has proposed a fine of \$50,000.

The alleged violation was identified by NRC staff during an inspection conducted at the Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant between January 30 and March 17, as well as a subsequent investigation by the NRC Office of Investigations. The violation concerned a plant contractor employee who falsified his pre-employment screening forms and who subsequently had his unescorted site access revoked by the licensee. The fine was proposed following a predecisional enforcement conference with the licensee on October 26.

The violation being cited involved the failure by BG&E officials to provide high assurance that the contractor employee who had been granted unescorted access to the Calvert Cliffs plant between February 1993 and October 1994, was trustworthy and reliable. Specifically, the Security Screening Supervisor allowed the temporary unescorted access of the contractor employee to continue even though (1) he received information indicating that the contractor employee had been arrested and convicted of a crime under a name other than that used on the individual's security application; (2) the contractor employee denied ever having been arrested or using another name; and (3) the Supervisor, Security Screening suspected that the contractor employee had been arrested under another name.

In a letter to BG&E officials, NRC Region I Administrator Thomas T. Martin, said, "The NRC is particularly concerned that the Security Screening Supervisor received information in April 1993, June 1993, and April 1994, noting that fingerprint records of the individual noted a prior arrest record under a different name, yet the supervisor granted permanent unescorted access to the individual in April 1994 based on behavioral observation during the time the individual was employed at Calvert Cliffs."

The individual's access was not revoked until the supervisor received information from the Immigration and Naturalization Service and the State Department in October 1994 that the individual was an illegal alien who fraudulently had applied for a U.S. passport under another false identify.

The licensee has 30 days either to pay the proposed fine or to request in writing that part or all of it be withdrawn. The company also has 30 days to admit or deny the alleged violation and to describe the actions it has taken, or plans to take, to prevent their recurrence.

The State of Maryland has been informed of this enforcement action.

####