

65FR 6329 Feb. 9 2000 PECO Energy Company Nuclear Group Headquarters 965)Chesterbrook Boulevard RULES & DIA. 1 US NPC Wavne: PA 19087-5691

April 7, 2000

Chief, Rules and Directives Branch Division of Administrative Services Office of Administration, Mail Stop: T-6 D59 U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555-0001

Subject: Comments Concerning the Allegations Program Under the New Regulatory Oversight Program (65FR6399, dated February 9, 2000)

This letter is being submitted in response to the NRC's request for comments concerning proposed improvements to the NRC's process for handling allegations, which was published in the federal register (65FR6399, dated February 9, 2000). The NRC has proposed significant revisions to its process for overseeing the safety performance of commercial nuclear power plants that include the inspection, assessment, and enforcement program. As part of its proposal the NRC established a new regulatory oversight process with a set of performance indicators and associated thresholds, developed a new baseline inspection program that supplements and verifies the performance indicators, and created a continuous assessment process that includes a method for consistently determining the appropriate regulatory action in response to varying levels of safety performance. The NRC's allegation program will provide a mechanism for individuals to identify safety and regulatory issues directly to the NRC.

PECO Energy appreciates the opportunity to comment on the "Allegations Program Under the New Regulatory Oversight Program." PECO Energy supports the comments submitted on behalf of the nuclear energy industry, by the Nuclear Energy Institute.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Very truly yours,

James A. Hutton, Jr. Director - Licensing

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