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NRC CONFIRMS BG&E'S COMMITMENTS TO ADDRESS
RADIOLOGICAL CONTROL PROGRAM WEAKNESSES AT CALVERT CLIFFS

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has issued a confirmatory action letter documenting commitments Baltimore Gas and Electric Company has made to improve the radiation safety program at the Calvert Cliffs nuclear power plant in Lusby, Maryland.

The action follows an incident on April 9, in which a worker received an unplanned radiation exposure while working in a high radiation area. The exposure did not exceed any regulatory limits. Both the company and the NRC looked into the incident and determined there were significant performance deficiencies related to this event.

In August of last year, the NRC fined the company \$176,000 as a result of significant deficiencies in radiological controls implemented for work by divers in the Unit 2 spent fuel pool last Spring. In response, the company spelled out corrective actions it would take to improve its radiation protection program.

However, in the confirmatory action letter sent April 29 to the utility, NRC Region I Administrator Hubert J. Miller said, "the continuing occurrence of radiological control-related problems suggests that your previous corrective actions have not been effective in resolving deficiencies and weaknesses in this area."

BG&E has agreed to engage an independent contractor to assess the quality and performance of ongoing radiological control activities. The company will inform the NRC of those findings and its planned response to them. It has further agreed to strengthen oversight of job-planning activities to assure that radiation controls are effectively established and implemented.

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EDITORS/NEWS DIRECTORS: A copy of the confirmatory action letter is available from this office. It is also available on the NRC's web site (www.nrc.gov/OPA/reports).