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A Member of the Constellation Energy Group

BGE

May 12, 2000

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

ATTENTION: Document Control Desk

SUBJECT: Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant
Unit Nos. 1 and 2; Docket Nos. 50-317/318
Special Report – Seismic Monitoring System

The attached special report is submitted in accordance with Calvert Cliffs Technical Requirements Manual Section 15.3.4, Contingency Measure B.1. The report is required due to the inoperability of the Seismic Monitoring system for a period in excess of thirty days.

Should you have questions regarding this matter, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Very truly yours,

Peter Katz

PEK/TWG/dlm

Attachment

cc: R. S. Fleishman, Esquire
J. E. Silberg, Esquire
Director, Project Directorate I-1, NRC
A. W. Dromerick, NRC
H. J. Miller, NRC
Resident Inspector, NRC
R. I. McLean, DNR
J. H. Walter, PSC

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ATTACHMENT (1)

SEISMIC MONITORING SYSTEM SPECIAL REPORT

Baltimore Gas and Electric Company (BGE) submits this Special Report concerning the inoperable seismic monitoring system as required by the Calvert Cliffs Technical Requirements Manual (TRM) Section 15.3.4, Contingency Measure B.1. The seismic monitoring system is common to Calvert Cliffs Unit 1 and 2.

ACTION TAKEN

The system was removed from operable status on April 4, 2000 at approximately 13:55 for surveillance testing. The vendor technician was onsite to support testing efforts. While testing, we discovered that the seismic activity recording mechanism did not respond as expected and would not pass Surveillance Test Procedure (STP) M-560-0 requirements. After additional onsite repair efforts proved unsuccessful, we concluded that the equipment must be sent to the vendor's facility for further evaluation. The equipment was sent offsite on April 18, 2000; and on May 2, 2000, the vendor stated that the failure mechanism had not yet been identified. On May 4, 2000, the 30-day restoration time specified in TRM Section 15.3.4 for returning the Seismic Monitoring system to operable status was not met.

EFFECT ON OPERATION

The ability to automatically detect and record seismic events at Calvert Cliffs Unit 1 and 2 is not available while the affected equipment is inoperable. There are no alternative means of monitoring seismic events. If a seismic event is felt by on-site personnel while the seismic monitoring system is inoperable, the operations shift manager evaluates implementation of the Emergency Response Plan Implementation Procedures. In addition, information is obtained on the extent of the earthquake by calling the National Earthquake Information Center or the University of Delaware.

No other systems are adversely affected by the inoperable seismic monitoring system.

CAUSES OF INOPERABILITY

The seismic monitoring system is inoperable due to a malfunction in the seismic activity recording mechanism. The exact cause of the malfunction is still under investigation.

PLANS AND SCHEDULES FOR RESTORING THE SYSTEM TO OPERABLE STATUS

The affected equipment is with the vendor and repair efforts are in progress. Once the repaired equipment is received by BGE, it will be installed as soon as practical. Based on available information, we anticipate returning the seismic monitoring system to operable status by June 16, 2000.