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July 28, 2000
L-00-086

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555-0001

**Subject: Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit No. 1
Docket No. 50-334, License No. DPR-66
10 CFR 50.61 (b), Pressurized Thermal Shock (PTS)**

The purpose of this transmittal is to advise the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) of plans relating to the Beaver Valley Unit 1 reactor vessel as they pertain to flux suppression for the purposes of minimizing neutron exposure of the beltline region material. In a September 6, 1994 letter to the NRC, Beaver Valley Unit 1 notified the staff of an aggressive short-term action, installation of Hafnium suppression assemblies, that would enable Unit 1 to reach the end of the current license life without exceeding the current PTS screening limit of 270°F for plate materials. Beaver Valley has reassessed this issue and will be removing the Hafnium suppression assemblies during the next refueling outage (1R14) scheduled to start in the fall of 2001.

The operation of Beaver Valley Unit 1 with the Hafnium suppression assemblies installed over the past three cycles has reduced the irradiation rate by approximately 25% during that time period. Using the calculated Chemistry Factor (CF) and fluence values identified in the SER issued on October 7, 1997 addressing the PTS status for Beaver Valley Unit 1, the PTS projections for Unit 1 would remain below the PTS screening criteria through the end of current license life.

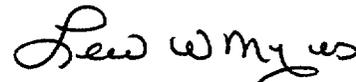
If Beaver Valley should make other changes to the plant operations that would negatively affect the PTS status of the Unit 1 reactor vessel, additional options would remain available and viable for addressing PTS concerns. These options include, but are not limited to, the use of the analytical guidance provided in Regulatory Guide 1.154 for the assessment of PTS concerns, the application of the Master Curve methodology or the reinstallation of Hafnium suppression assemblies to continue power operation to the end of the current license life.

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If you have any questions regarding this submittal, please contact Mr. Thomas S. Cosgrove, Manager, Licensing, at (724) 682-5203.

Sincerely,



Lew W. Myers

Attachment

- c: Mr. D. S. Collins, Project Manager
- Mr. D. M. Kern, Sr. Resident Inspector
- Mr. H. J. Miller, NRC Region I Administrator
- Mr. D. A. Allard, Director BRP/DEP
- Mr. L. E. Ryan (BRP/DEP)
- Ms. M. E. O'Reilly (FirstEnergy Legal Department)