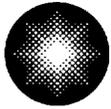


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**Constellation
Nuclear**

**Calvert Cliffs
Nuclear Power Plant**

*A Member of the
Constellation Energy Group*

December 6, 2000

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

ATTENTION: Document Control Desk

SUBJECT: Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant
Unit No. 1; Docket No. 50-317
Reactor Vessel Water Level Monitor Special Report

The attached special report is submitted in accordance with Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant Technical Specification 3.3.10. The report is required due to the Unit 1 Reactor Vessel Water Level Monitor having less than the required minimum number of operable channels.

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

Very truly yours,

PEK/ALS/bjd

Attachment: (1) Unit 1 Reactor Vessel Water Level Monitor Special Report

cc: R. S. Fleishman, Esquire
J. E. Silberg, Esquire
Director, Project Directorate I-1, NRC
A. W. Dromerick, NRC

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ATTACHMENT (1)

UNIT 1
REACTOR VESSEL WATER LEVEL MONITOR
SPECIAL REPORT

ATTACHMENT (1)

UNIT 1 REACTOR VESSEL WATER LEVEL MONITOR SPECIAL REPORT

Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Inc. (CCNPP) submits this Special Report concerning an inoperable Unit 1 Reactor Vessel Water Level Monitor channel. This Special Report is required by Technical Specification 3.3.10, Condition B, Required Action B.1.

ACTION TAKEN

On October 28, 2000, at approximately 03:35 hours, the CCNPP Unit 1 Reactor Vessel Water Level Monitor, Channel A experienced a failure of the 112 inch heated junction thermocouple (sensor). This failure, coupled with previous failures of the 153 inch and 185 inch heated junction thermocouples, resulted in Channel A being declared inoperable. Calvert Cliffs Updated Final Safety Analysis Report, Section 7.5.9.2, "Reactor Vessel Level Monitoring System," requires one of the upper three (vessel head region) and three of the lower five (plenum region) sensors for operability of each Reactor Vessel Water Level Monitor Channel. As a result, CCNPP immediately declared Channel A inoperable and entered Technical Specification 3.3.10, Condition A.

EFFECT ON OPERATION

The Reactor Vessel Water Level Monitor is post-accident monitoring instrumentation. It provides plant operator's with the information needed to assess void formation in the reactor vessel head region and the trend of liquid level in the reactor vessel plenum. The Reactor Vessel Water Level Monitor consists of two redundant channels. Reactor Vessel Water Level Monitor Channel B remains operable. The removal of Channel A from operable status eliminates a means of redundant indication. However, alternate methods of monitoring for core and Reactor Coolant System voiding, using pressurizer level, Reactor Coolant System subcooling, hot leg and cold leg temperature, and core exit thermocouple instrumentation, have been initiated as required by plant procedures.

CAUSES OF INOPERABILITY

The cause of inoperability is the failure of three heated junction thermocouples (sensors) in the upper three sensors. The root cause of these failures is unknown at this time.

PLANS AND SCHEDULES FOR RESTORING THE SYSTEM TO OPERABLE STATUS

Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Inc. will replace the Channel A Reactor Vessel Water Level Monitor probe during the scheduled Unit 1 2002 Refueling Outage. Following the replacement of the probe, it is expected that the Reactor Vessel Water Level Monitor Channel A will be returned to operable status.