

August 4, 1995

Mr. George A. Hunger, Jr.
Director-Licensing, MC 62A-1
PECO Energy Company
Nuclear Group Headquarters
Correspondence Control Desk
P.O. Box No. 195
Wayne, PA 19087-0195

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT,
RELATED TO THE CONOWINGO TIE LINE AND EMERGENCY DIESEL GENERATOR
ALLOWED OUTAGE TIME, PEACH BOTTOM ATOMIC POWER STATION (PBAPS),
UNITS 2 AND 3 (TAC NOS. M89243 AND M89244)

Dear Mr. Hunger:

Enclosed is a copy of the Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact related to your application for amendments dated April 7, 1994, as supplemented by letters dated June 2, and September 6, 1994, and June 16, and July 13, 1995. The proposed amendments would provide for an extended allowed-out-of-service-times for the PBAPS Emergency Diesel Generators based on the availability of an alternate AC power source.

We have enclosed a copy of the Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact for this proposed amendment which is being forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,
/s/

Joseph W. Shea, Project Manager
Project Directorate I-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-277 & 50-278

Enclosure: Environmental Assessment

cc w/encl: See next page

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph W. Shea".

Joseph W. Shea, Project Manager
Project Directorate I-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-277/278

Enclosure: Environmental Assessment

cc w/encl: See next page

Mr. George A. Hunger, Jr.
PECO Energy Company

Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station,
Units 2 and 3

cc:

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONPECO ENERGY COMPANYPUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANYDELMARVA POWER AND LIGHT COMPANYATLANTIC CITY ELECTRIC COMPANYDOCKET NOS. 50-277 & 50-278PEACH BOTTOM ATOMIC POWER STATION, UNITS 2 AND 3ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OFNO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of amendments to Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-44 and DPR-56, issued to PECO Energy Company, Public Service Electric and Gas Company, Delmarva Power and Light Company, and Atlantic City Electric Company (the licensee), for operation of the Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station (PBAPS), Units 2 and 3 located in York County, Pennsylvania.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTIdentification of the Proposed Action:

The proposed action would extend the allowed-out-of-service-times (AOTs) for the PBAPS Emergency Diesel Generators (EDGs) based on the availability of an alternate AC (AAC) power source. The AAC is a direct tie line between the PBAPS and the Conowingo Hydroelectric Station located approximately 9 miles down the Susquehanna River from PBAPS. Currently, the AOT for a single inoperable EDG is 7 days. The amendments would allow the AOT for a single EDG inoperable to be a maximum of 14 days provided the Conowingo line is verified

to be available. However, under no circumstances will the AOT be more than 7 days without the Conowingo line being available.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application for amendments dated April 7, 1994, as supplemented by letters dated June 2, 1994, September 6, 1994, June 16, 1995 and July 13, 1995.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed action will provide increased flexibility in scheduling and performing maintenance activities on the EDGs. The licensee currently faces significant challenges to complete periodic maintenance and modification activities within the existing TS 7-day AOT. Expiration of the AOT for EDGs without restoring all EDGs to an operable status requires shutting down both Peach Bottom units in accordance with the existing TS. In addition, the 7-day maximum EDG AOT in the current TS precludes the performance of certain major beneficial maintenance activities and modifications without shutting down both Peach Bottom units.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed action and based on the information presented in the licensee's application, concludes that the proposed extension of the EDGs AOT in conjunction with the availability of the Conowingo line, will not increase the probability of initiating events leading to a design basis accident. The additional reliability of the offsite source afforded by the Conowingo line would improve the potential for mitigating loss-of-offsite power events. Consequently, the consequences of accidents would not be significantly increased, nor would the post-accident radiological releases be greater than previously determined.

The proposed action would not otherwise affect radiological plant effluents. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed action (extending EDG AOTs) does not affect nonradiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action:

Since the Commission has concluded there is no measurable environmental impact associated with the proposed action, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impact need not be evaluated. As an alternative to the proposed action, the staff considered denial of the proposed action. Denial of the application would result in no change in current environmental impacts. The environmental impacts of the proposed action and the alternative action are similar.

Alternative Use of Resources:

This action does not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement for the Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station, Units 2 and 3, dated April 1973.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

In accordance with its stated policy, on July 24, 1995, the staff consulted with the Pennsylvania State official, Stan Maingi, of the

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources, regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comments.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Based upon the environmental assessment, the Commission concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, the Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed action.

For further details with respect to the proposed action, see the licensee's letter dated April 7, 1994, as supplemented by letters dated June 2, and September 6, 1994, and June 16, and July 13, 1995, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, The Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room located at Government Publications Section, State Library of Pennsylvania, (REGIONAL DEPOSITORY) Education Building, Walnut Street and Commonwealth Avenue, Box 1601, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 4th day of August 1995.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION


John F. Stolz, Director
Project Directorate I-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation