

April 4, 2002

MEMORANDUM TO: Joel Munday, Acting Chief, Section 1
Project Directorate I
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Donna Skay, Project Manager, Section 1
Project Directorate I
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: DOCUMENTATION OF CONFERENCE CALL TO CALVERT CLIFFS
NUCLEAR POWER PLANT, UNIT NO. 1 ON MARCH 26, 2002,
REGARDING REACTOR VESSEL HEAD INSPECTION ACTIVITIES
(TAC NO. MB4533)

On March 26, 2002, the NRC staff had a conference call with Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Inc. (CCNPPI) to discuss the results of their reactor vessel head inspections for Unit 1 and potential impact of the Davis-Besse control rod drive mechanism (CRDM) inspection findings (see: NRC BULLETIN 2002-01, dated March 18, 2002.) During the March 26, 2002, call, CCNPPI addressed the following areas.

1. Inspection of the reactor vessel head: The licensee performed a qualified visual inspection of 100% of the nozzles on the vessel head underneath the insulation. These inspections were performed with a video probe. The licensee found some boric acid residue during the inspections but found no indication of degradation of the reactor vessel head.
2. History of boric acid leaks: The licensee stated that a leakage event in 1994 from instrumentation nozzle flanges left boric acid residue around two of the flanges. The residue was cleaned up during the current inspection. After removal of the residue, the licensee found no evidence of corrosion. This was the first bare metal inspection of the area since the leakage in 1994 and no additional leakage events have occurred since then.

In conclusion, the inspections of Calvert Cliffs, Unit 1 did not identify any degradation of the reactor vessel head similar to that observed at Davis-Besse. Based on the preliminary findings from Davis-Besse, the inspections performed by the licensee, and the licensee's susceptibility to nozzle cracking, the NRC staff did not identify any issues that needed additional follow-up prior to plant restart. The staff will document its formal review after receiving the licensee's Bulletin 2002-01 response.

Docket No. 50-317

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PDI-1 Reading

ACCESSION No. ML020910170

*See previous concurrence

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