

November 25, 2002

Mr. Bryce L. Shriver  
Senior Vice President and  
Chief Nuclear Officer  
Susquehanna Steam Electric Station  
PPL Susquehanna, LLC  
769 Salem Blvd., NUCSB3  
Berwick, PA 18603-0035

RI-2002-A-0004

Dear Mr. Shriver:

The Region I Field Office of the NRC Office of Investigations (OI), initiated an investigation (OI Case #1-2002-002) on January 4, 2002, to determine if a unit supervisor (an NRC licensed senior reactor operator at Susquehanna Steam Electric Station (SSES)) failed to provide a reactivity briefing on April 26, 2001, to a Unit 1 reactor operator as required by Susquehanna Nuclear Department procedure NDAP-QA-0338, Revision 5, entitled "Reactivity Management and Controls Program" prior to having the reactor operator verify the movement of control rods on Unit 2, and that the same supervisor falsified SSES condition report (CR) No. 330812. OI also investigated whether or not SSES personnel deliberately exceeded the allowable core thermal power limit for SSES operation on August 4, 2001. A copy of the synopsis of OI Report 1-2002-002 is enclosed for your information.

Please note that final NRC documents, such as the OI report described above, may be made available to the public under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) subject to redaction of information appropriate under the FOIA. Requests under the FOIA should be made in accordance with 10 CFR 9.23, Requests for Records, a copy of which is enclosed for your information.

Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please feel free to contact Dr. M. Shanbaky, of my staff, at (610) 337-5209.

Sincerely,

*/RA by James Clifford for/*

A. Randolph Blough, Director  
Division of Reactor Projects

Enclosures:  
As Stated

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## SYNOPSIS

This investigation was initiated on January 8, 2002, by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), Office of Investigations (OI), Region I, to determine if a unit supervisor (an NRC licensed senior reactor operator at Susquehanna Steam Electric Station (SSES)) failed to provide a reactivity briefing on April 26, 2001, to a Unit 1 reactor operator as required by Susquehanna Nuclear Department procedure NDAP-QA-0338, Revision 5, entitled ["Reactivity Management and Controls Program]" prior to having the reactor operator verify the movement of control rods on Unit 2, and if that same supervisor falsified SSES condition report (CR) No. 330812. OI also investigated whether SSES personnel deliberately exceeded the allowable core thermal power limits for SSES operation on August 4, 2001.

Based on the evidence developed during this investigation, OI did not substantiate that a SSES Unit Supervisor deliberately violated SESS procedures regarding the requirement to provide a reactivity briefing/tailboard when moving groups of control rods, nor did he provide incomplete and inaccurate information on SSES CR 330812. Additionally, OI did not substantiate that SSES personnel deliberately tried to exceed the allowable core thermal power limits.