

May 16, 2008

Mr. Charles G. Pardee
Chief Nuclear Officer (CNO) and Senior Vice President
Exelon Generation Company, LLC
Chief Nuclear Officer (CNO)
AmerGen Energy Company, LLC
200 Exelon Way
Kennett Square, PA 19348

SUBJECT: OFFSITE PLANNING DEFICIENCY IDENTIFIED DURING THE APRIL 22, 2008,
PEACH BOTTOM ATOMIC POWER STATION EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
EXERCISE

Dear Mr. Pardee:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security/Federal Emergency Management Agency (DHS/FEMA), Philadelphia Area Field Office, to the Maryland Emergency Management Agency, dated May 9, 2008. This letter discusses four planning deficiencies identified during evaluation of the April 22, 2008, emergency preparedness exercise at the Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station (PBAPS). DHS/FEMA defines a deficiency as "an observed or identified inadequacy of organizational performance in an exercise that could cause a finding that offsite emergency preparedness is not adequate to provide reasonable assurance that appropriate measures can be taken in the event of a radiological emergency to protect the health and safety of the public living in the vicinity of a nuclear power plant." Specifically, the deficiencies in this case resulted from not coordinating Emergency Alert System message notifications, news releases, and siren activations in Harford and Cecil counties, Maryland, during the exercise. Two of the four deficiencies were remediated during the course of the exercise.

The purpose of this letter is to communicate DHS/FEMA's official notification of the deficiency that was sent to the State of Maryland. This letter is in accordance with the NRC-FEMA Memorandum of Understanding. No response to the NRC is required.

The NRC encourages Peach Bottom to work with the appropriate offsite governmental agencies to ensure a timely resolution of these issues. The NRC will continue to monitor the status of these issues. In accordance with the NRC-FEMA Memorandum of Understanding, the NRC and the FEMA Philadelphia Area Field Office will assess the progress made toward resolution of the issue by approximately June 23, 2008, and will decide at that time if additional measures are necessary.

If this issue is not adequately resolved by August 20, 2008, DHS/FEMA may withdraw the finding of reasonable assurance according to the requirements of 44 CFR 350.13(a). At that time, the NRC would take appropriate action according to the requirements of 10 CFR 50.54(s)(2) and 50.54(s)(3).

C. Pardee

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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of the NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

If you have any further questions, please contact Stephen T. Barr at (610) 337-5316.

Sincerely,

/RA/

James M. Trapp, Chief
Plant Support Branch 1
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No: 50-277, 50-278
License No: DPR-44, DPR-56

Enclosure:

Letter from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security/Federal Emergency Management Agency, Philadelphia Area Field Office, to the Maryland Emergency Management Agency, dated May 9, 2008

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James M. Trapp, Chief
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SUNSI Review Complete: JMT (Reviewer's Initials)

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cc w/Enclosure:

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J. Grimes, Site Vice President, Peach Bottom
R. DeGregorio, Senior Vice President, Mid-Atlantic
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M. Massaro, Plant Manager, Peach Bottom
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D. Allard, Director, Bureau of Radiation Protection, PA Department of Environmental Protection
J. Droneburg, Director, MD Emergency Management Agency
S. Gray, Power Plant and Environmental Review Division (MD)
S. Pattison, Secretary, MD Department of the Environment
M. Griffen, MD Department of Environment
Public Service Commission of Maryland, Engineering Division
Board of Supervisors, Peach Bottom Township
B. O'Connor, Council Administrator of Harford County Council
R. Ayers, Deputy Mgr, Harford County Div of Emergency Operations
E. Crist, Harford County Div of Emergency Operations
S. Ayers, Emergency Planner, Harford County Div of Emergency Operations
R. Brooks, Cecil County Dept of Emergency Services
Mr & Mrs Dennis Hiebert, Peach Bottom Alliance
E. Epstein, TMI - Alert
J. Johnsrud, National Energy Committee, Sierra Club
Mr. & Mrs. Kip Adams
R. Fletcher, Dir, MD Environmental Program Manager, Radiological Health Program
J. Powers, Director, PA Office of Homeland Security
R. French, Dir, PA Emergency Management Agency
D. Lockbaum, Union of Concerned Scientists
D. Hammons, RAC Chair, FEMA, Region III

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