

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

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Ms. Diana Diaz-Toro, Chief
Environmental Review Branch A
Division of Waste Management
and Environmental Protection
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Ms. Diaz-Toro:

On behalf of the citizens of Maryland, and our staff at Maryland Department of Environment (MDE), let me thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed 40 year license renewal for Calvert Cliffs Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation at the Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant (CCNPP).

Our ongoing efforts to monitor the impact that the Calvert Cliffs operation has on the environment are supported by the Power Plant Assessment Program (PPAP) directed by Ms. Susan Gray from the Department of Natural Resources. On November 19, 2010, Ms. Gray presented results of data collected and analyzed by the PPAP to specific senior staff of MDE, from sampling sites around the CCNPP. During the sample period dating back to 2006, samples of water, air, milk, sediment, plant matter, fish tissue, and other marine life were tested and the results analyzed. "The incremental contribution of radioactivity and the corresponding dose of radiation attributable to the operation of CCNPP... are minimal when compared with natural levels of radioactivity and the associated natural dose of radiation".¹

As recently as last week, in response to an invitation from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), staff from the Maryland Emergency Management Agency attended an inspection of CCNPP on our behalf. The inspection was led by Mr. Silas Kennedy. This inspection focused on strategies related to the spent fuel pool under the NRC Security Order Section B.5.b. Mr. Kennedy had a checklist of items he used to verify critical details observed during the inspection. He interviewed Mike Stanley the site Fire Marshall, and Terry Shields, a Mechanical Supervisor. Mr. Kennedy conducted a walk down to ensure adequate equipment was on hand, procedures were in place, and staff was fully trained, in case issues with the spent fuel pool arose.

¹ Jones, T.S. and B.S. Hood. Environmental radionuclide concentrations in the vicinity of the Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant and the Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station: 2006-2007. PPRP-R-31. June 2010. Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Power Plant Research Program, Annapolis, MD.



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When the day concluded, Mr. Kennedy said that CCNPP was able to preliminarily comply with the requirements of the review. His full report will be completed on April 29, 2011. In conclusion, with regard to environmental impact, Maryland Department of the Environment has no reason to challenge the CCNPP application to the NRC for license renewal of the site specific Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation.

Sincerely,



Robert M. Summers, Ph.D.
Secretary

