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 FACIL: 50-387 Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Unit 1, Pennsylvania      05000387  
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 CURTIS, N.W.      Pennsylvania Power & Light Co.  
 RECIP. NAME      RECIPIENT AFFILIATION  
 DENTON, H.R.      Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Director

SUBJECT: Expresses concern re wording of new 10CFR50.72(b)(2)(VI) effective 840101, Paragraph stated was not included in proposed rule. Rev stating that Licensee notify NRC as soon as practical should be included.

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OCT 10 1983

Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION  
NEW FINAL RULE 10CFR50.72  
ER 100450 FILE 841  
PLA-1873

Docket No. 50-387

Dear Mr. Denton:

Pennsylvania Power & Light Co. is concerned regarding the wording of the new 10CFR50.72 which takes effect on January 1, 1984.

The new §50.72(b) (2) (vi) states that the licensee shall notify the NRC as soon as practical and in all cases within four hours of the occurrence of:

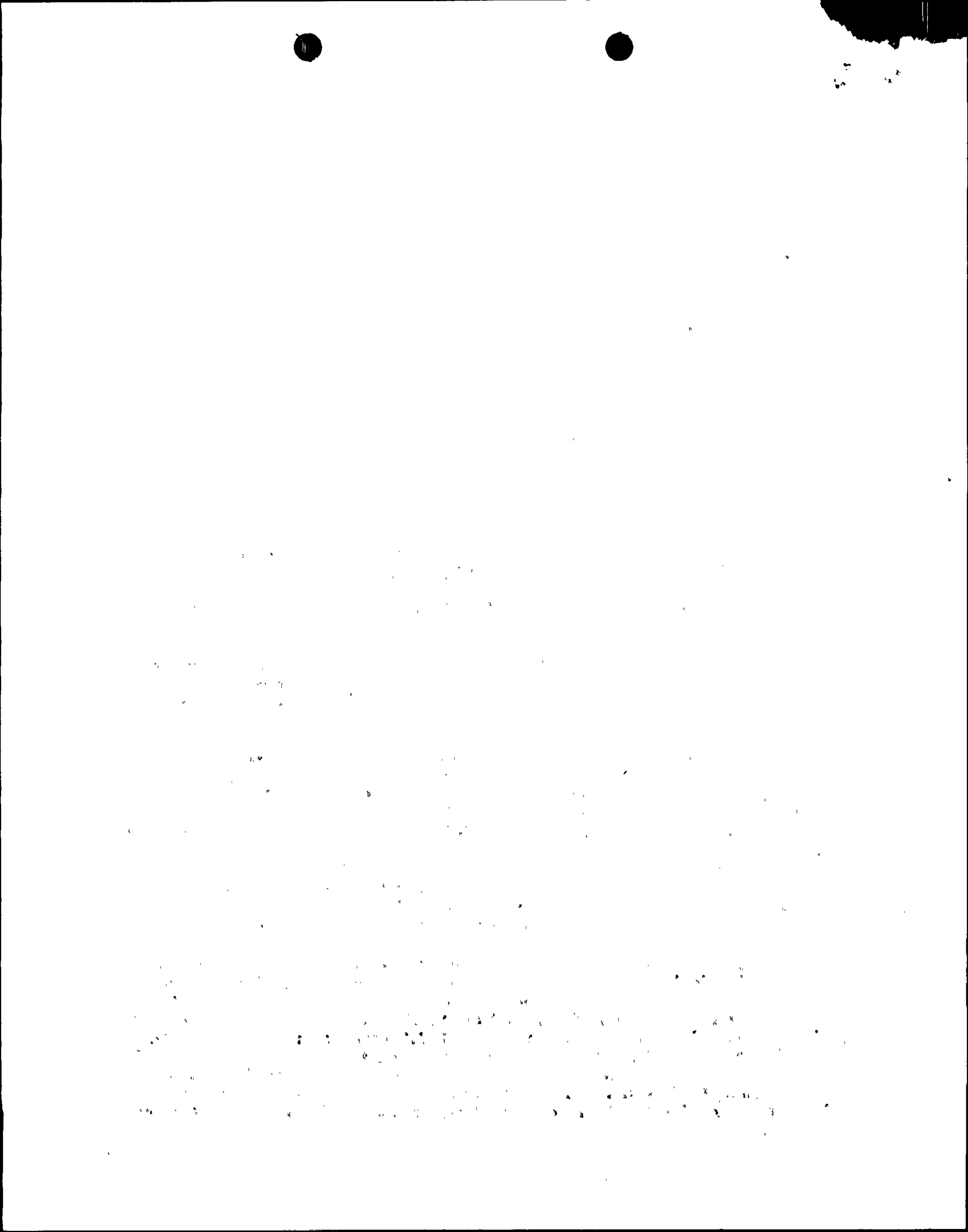
Any event or situation, related to the health and safety of the public or onsite personnel, or protection of the environment, for which a news release is planned or notification to other government agencies has been or will be made.

This paragraph was not included in the proposed rule. The statement of consideration (48 FR 39045) confirms this and indicates that the purpose of this paragraph is to alert NRC to possible news media or public attention. Certain events would not require notification except for the issuance of a news release. However, as worded, the timing of the report is dictated by the occurrence of the event rather than by a determination that a news release or government notification is appropriate. If the decision to issue a news release were to occur more than four hours after the event, it would appear that compliance with the rule, as presently worded, would not be possible. The same concern applies to notification to other government agencies.

In addition, where other government agencies are concerned, the meaning of the term "notification" is not clear. In the case of NPDES violations, written notification is required within five days to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources (PA DER). NRC currently receives a copy of each such notification. Since any violation of the NPDES permit arguably relates to the protection of the environment, then each such violation would now require that NRC be notified over ENS within four hours of the event. This is not, we believe, what NRC intends. Where sufficient time is permitted to provide written notification to other government agencies, notification of NRC over ENS should not be necessary.

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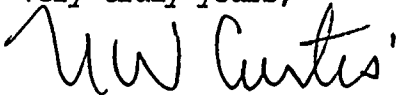
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ER 100450 File 841  
Mr. Harold R. Denton

Based on the above concerns, PP&L recommends that the new §50.72(b)(2)(vi) be revised to state that the licensee shall notify the NRC as soon as practical and in all cases within four hours of the occurrence of:

A determination that a news release is planned or that notification to other government agencies will be made for any event or situation, related to the health and safety of the public or onsite personnel, or protection of the environment.

In addition, the rule should be modified or footnoted to indicate that "notification" means "verbal" rather than "written". These changes would make compliance with the rule possible while still meeting NRC's need to be alerted prior to news media or public attention.

Very truly yours,



N. W. Curtis  
Vice President-Engineering & Construction-Nuclear

cc: Mr. R. L. Perch - NRC Bethesda  
Mr. G. G. Rhoads - NRC Resident Inspector  
Mr. E. W. Weiss - NRC I&E

rmh/lti048a

