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 50-388 Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Unit 2, Pennsylv 05000388
 AUTH.NAME AUTHOR AFFILIATION
 HEHL, C. Region 1 (Post 820201)
 RECIP.NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
 BYRAM, R.G. Pennsylvania Power & Light Co.

SUBJECT: Discusses insp repts 50-387/98-10 & 50-388/98-10 completed on 981012. Violation identified involving potential for single failure to cause bypass of suppression chamber during LOCA. Exercises discretion to not issue NOV & civil penalty.

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November 3, 1998

EA 98-502

Mr. Robert G. Byram
Senior Vice President - Nuclear
Pennsylvania Power & Light Company
2 North Ninth Street
Allentown, Pennsylvania 18101

SUBJECT: EXERCISE OF ENFORCEMENT DISCRETION RELATED TO INSPECTION
REPORT 50-387;388/98-10

Dear Mr. Byram:

On October 12, 1998, the NRC completed an inspection at your Susquehanna Steam Electric Station (SSES) Unit 1 & 2 reactor facilities and documented the results of the inspection in report 50-387;388/98-10.

In the inspection report, the NRC reviewed a licensee identified issue involving the potential for a single failure to cause a bypass of the suppression chamber during a loss of coolant accident. This issue is a violation of NRC requirements, which could be considered for escalated enforcement and be subject to a civil penalty. However, after consultation with the Director, Office of Enforcement and the Regional Administrator, I have been authorized to exercise discretion to not issue a Notice of Violation and not propose a civil penalty in accordance with the provisions provided in NRC Enforcement Policy, Section VII.B.3, Violations Involving Old Design Issues. This decision was made after consideration that: (1) the violation was identified by your staff's good questioning attitude during voluntary initiatives; (2) corrective actions were comprehensive and timely; (3) the conditions were subtle in nature and not likely to be disclosed through routine surveillance or quality assurance activities; and (4) the violation is not reasonably linked to current performance. The exercise of discretion acknowledges your good effort to identify and correct subtle violations, that would not be identified by routine efforts, before the degraded safety systems are called upon.

9811130169 981103
PDR ADCK 05000387
G PDR



Robert G. Byram

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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR).

We appreciate your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by:

Charles Hehl, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos.: 50-387, 50-388
License Nos.: NPF-14, NPF-22

cc:

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Commonwealth of Pennsylvania



Robert G. Byram

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DATE	10/2/98	10/2/98	10/1/98 <i>11/2/98</i>	10/3/98

OE also agreed with approval as noted in 10/27/98 OE understands sum.

