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# BALTIMORE GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

P. O. BOX 1475  
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21203

June 27, 1980

ARTHUR E. LUNDVALL, JR.  
VICE PRESIDENT  
SUPPLY

Mr. Boyce H. Grier, Director  
Region I, Office of Inspection and Enforcement  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
631 Park Avenue  
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Subject: Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant  
Units Nos. 1 & 2, Dockets Nos. 50-317 & 50-318  
IE Bulletin 80-05

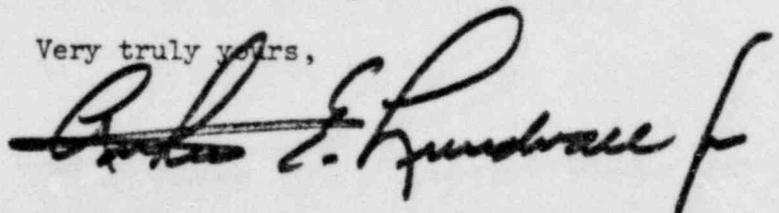
Reference: BG&E letter dated 6/4/80 from A. E. Lundvall, Jr.  
to B. H. Grier, same subject.

Dear Mr. Grier:

The referenced letter provided our response to the subject bulletin. In that response, we identified the Reactor Coolant Drain Tank as being one tank which was calculated to possibly experience a negative pressure below its design collapse pressure if it was pumped without sufficient backfill gas. However, operating experience has shown that even if the tank is pumped at maximum flowrate, tank pressure remains greater than atmospheric. Additionally, since the Reactor Coolant Drain Tank is located inside of containment, no outside release to atmosphere would occur. As an extra precaution, we stated in our previous letter that we would increase the setpoint of the nitrogen supply control valve to ensure a greater nitrogen backflow into the tank. However, operationally, it has been determined that nitrogen backflow into the Reactor Coolant Drain Tank significantly increases the volume of waste gas which our Waste Gas system must process and is not consistent with the provisions of "as low as reasonably achievable" (ALARA). Consequently, normal plant operating procedures call for the isolation of nitrogen to that tank during routine operations.

Since the Reactor Coolant Drain Tank pressure does not drop below atmospheric pressure during routine pumping operations and remains well above the minimum design pressure (vacuum), and since the restriction of nitrogen flow into the tank is consistent with the ALARA guidelines, we have determined that operation of the tank in this mode is acceptable. Additionally, since the tank is located within containment such that a rupture of the tank would not lead directly to radioactive releases to the environment, we have determined that operation of the tank described herein does not present an undue risk to the health and safety of the public.

Very truly yours,



800725062

cc: J. A. Biddison, Esquire  
G. F. Trowbridge, Esquire  
Messrs. E. L. Conner, Jr. - NRC  
J. W. Brothers - Bechtel

Division of Reactor Construction Inspection  
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