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PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY

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PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19101

JOSEPH W. GALLAGHER
MANAGER
ELECTRIC PRODUCTION DEPARTMENT

(215) 841-5003

July 23, 1980

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

Dear Mr. Grier:

This is in response to your letter of July 3, 1980, which forwarded IE Bulletin 80-17 and contained a twenty-day time limit from the time of notification for performing scram tests described in the Bulletin. The twenty-day limit expires at 12:01 a.m. on July 28, 1980. Your letter also provided for an extension of this time if shutdown of a unit would severely impact the power reliability in our area.

Philadelphia Electric Company (PE) as part of the Pennsylvania - New Jersey - Maryland (PJM) power pool has been running all available generating equipment to meet the high power demands in our region. The high temperatures, which the entire PJM area has been experiencing, have created all time high power demands for PE Company and PJM. Long range forecasts are such that there is a likelihood that peak power demand could be repeated any time during the remainder of the summer season.

Peach Bottom No. 2 Unit is presently in a refueling outage but is expected back in service by the end of July. The scram tests on this unit will be completed before startup. PJM advises that an outage of Peach Bottom No. 3 Unit at this time would severely impact the reliability in this region. Because of the high power demands likely in this area and the critical location of Peach Bottom for supplying power and vitally needed voltage support to the PJM power grid, we are requesting that the required outage of No. 3 Unit be extended until the weekend of August 9, 1980. It is expected that No. 2 Unit will be

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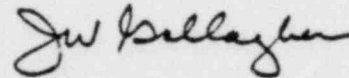
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generating at full capacity by that time and an outage of No. 3 Unit will be possible without severe effects on the power system.

The following measures have been taken to insure the operability of the Control Rod Drive system.

- a) A surveillance test has been initiated which strokes the scram discharge volume vent and drain valves daily to verify proper operation. Valve position is verified and recorded in the surveillance log once per shift.
- b) The operability of the three gallon limit switch in the scram discharge instrument volume tank is verified during the daily surveillance test identified in item a.
- c) Procedures have been revised to provide additional instructions to the operators for a failure to scram.

Very truly yours,



cc: Mr. D. Eisenhut
Office of Inspection & Enforcement
Division of Reactor Operations Inspection
Washington, DC 20555

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA :

ss.

COUNTY OF PHILADELPHIA :

J. W. Gallagher, being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

That he is Manager of the Electric Production Department of Philadelphia Electric Company; that he has read the foregoing response to IE Bulletin 80-17 and knows the contents thereof; and that the statements and matters set forth therein are true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.

J. W. Gallagher

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 23rd day of July, 1980.

Elizabeth H. Boyer
Notary Public
ELIZABETH H. BOYER
Notary Public, Phila., Phila. Co.
My Commission Expires Jan. 30, 1982