

JAN 29 1990

Docket No.: 50-317

Baltimore Gas and Electric Company
ATIN: Mr. George C. Creel
Vice President - Nuclear Energy
Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant
MD Rts 2 & 4
Post Office Box 1535
Lusby, Maryland 20657

Gentlemen:

Subject: NRC Region I Inspection Report No. 50-317/89-81 - Readiness
Assessment Team Inspection

This refers to the Readiness Assessment Team Inspection (RATI) led by Mr. A. Randolph Blough of this office on November 7-20, 1989, at the Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Lusby, Maryland. The results of the inspection are documented within the enclosed inspection report. At the conclusion of the inspection Mr. Blough and Mr. James T. Wiggins of this office held an exit interview with you and members of your staff to present the preliminary findings of this inspection.

The purpose of the inspection was to determine if licensee corrective actions had been effective at generally raising the level of performance in areas targeted for short-term improvements by Confirmatory Action Letter (CAL) No. 89-08 and related documents, and if performance was at a level that would provide adequate assurance of safety in support of plant operation. The inspection consisted of interviews with licensee personnel, plant tours, observations of plant activities, and selective examinations of procedures, records, and documents.

Within the scope of its review, the Team found improvements in all areas. The Team concluded that overall performance was at a level to provide adequate assurance of safe operation, with the exception of one major area. The Team found substantial weaknesses in the area of safety tagging. Although safety tagouts were being properly researched, designed, approved and installed, the Team noted weaknesses in program administration, self-assessment and management oversight. Because of these weaknesses, the Team concluded that improvements would be necessary to assure that a satisfactory level of performance can be sustained to support safe operation of the facility. Further, the Team was concerned that licensee management assessment of this area was not sufficient to identify that it was not ready for RATI review. Accordingly, you are requested to thoroughly re-evaluate the area of safety tagging and provide a written response to this letter. Your response should include a discussion of (1) why your management self-assessment of this area prior to the NRC RATI reached different conclusions than did the NRC Team; (2) your assessment of the reasons for the identified weaknesses; (3) your plans for corrective actions, and (4) your planned measures to ensure appropriate self-assessment of the program prior to NRC inspection followup.

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Additionally, regarding routine corrective action programs, the Team noted complexity and multiplicity in your programs. Consequently, the Team considered it important that you provide additional measures of assurance that deficiencies identified during operation will be properly classified, prioritized, reviewed and tracked to assure that effective corrective actions are completed on schedules commensurate with their safety significance. As detailed in paragraph 3.5 of the enclosed report, you have made an acceptable commitment in this regard. In your response to this letter, please briefly describe your planned methods for meeting that commitment.

In addition, paragraph 3.5 lists other commitments we understand that you have made to resolve certain specific issues described in the report. If your understanding of any commitment differs from that stated, please inform Mr. Blough or Mr. Wiggins promptly.

A representative of the State of Maryland observed this entire inspection under the NRC's policy for state participation in NRC inspection activities. The state representative submitted a report on his observations on December 6, 1989. This report is also enclosed with this letter.

Your cooperation with us is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

William F. Kane, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Enclosures:

1. NRC Region I Inspection Report No. 50-317/89-81 - Readiness Assessment Team Inspection
2. Letter from Thomas E. Magette to James T. Wiggins, dated December 6, 1989

cc w/encls:

W. Lippold, General Supervisor, Technical Services Engineering
T. Magette, Administrator, Nuclear Evaluations, State of Maryland
J. Lemons, Manager, Nuclear Outage Management
L. Russell, Manager, Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant
J. Walter, Engineering Division, Public Service Commission of Maryland
K. Burger, Maryland People's Counsel
P. Birnie, Maryland Safe Energy Coalition
Public Document Room (PDR)
Local Public Document Room (LPDR)
Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)
NRC Resident Inspector
State of Maryland (2)

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- bcc w/encls:
- Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)
- Management Assistant, DRMA (w/o encl)
- W. Russell, RA
- T. Martin, DRA
- W. Kane, DRP
- J. Wiggins, DRP
- J. Linville, DRP
- C. Cowgill, DRP
- D. Limroth, DRP
- K. Lathrop, DRP
- J. Beall, SRI - Calvert Cliffs
- T. Kim, RI - Calvert Cliffs
- L. Nicholson, RI - Surry
- A. Howe, DRS
- K. Abraham, PAO
- M. Miller, SLO
- J. Dyer, EDO
- M. Callahan, OCA
- R. Capra, NRR
- D. McDonald, NRR
- M. Hunemuller, NRR
- Team Members

RI:DRP
RBlough/mjd

1/23/90

RI:DRP
JWiggins

1/24/90

RI:DRP
W.Kane

1/26/90