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MAR 10 1993

Docket Nos. 50-277  
50-278

Mr. D. M. Smith  
Senior Vice President-Nuclear  
Philadelphia Electric Company  
Nuclear Group Headquarters  
Correspondence Control Desk  
P. O. Box 195  
Wayne, Pennsylvania 19087-0195

Dear Mr. Smith:

SUBJECT: NRC Combined Inspection Nos. 50-277/93-02; 50-278/93-02

A special reactive radiological safety inspection of activities at the Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station was conducted by Messrs. L. Eckert and J. Noggle on February 8 - 9 and March 1 - 2, 1993. This inspection reviewed a licensee identified incident involving the breakdown of personnel access controls associated with the Traversing In-core Probe (TIP) system operation. The inspection during the period of February 8 - 9, 1993 was conducted at your facility and results of it were discussed with Mr. Wasong and other members of your staff on February 9. The inspection during the period of March 1 - 2, 1993 was conducted at our office in King of Prussia, and involved review of your incident investigation report. The findings of that review were discussed by telephone with Mr. Wasong on March 2.

Areas reviewed during this inspection were important to health and safety and are discussed in the enclosed inspection report. As the result of personnel error, personnel access control around the vicinity of the TIP room was not established prior to a TIP movement operation which is known to cause transient radiation fields in and around the area. While there was no unplanned personnel exposure associated with the event and a substantial potential for a significant exposure did not exist, control of personnel during such operations is considered very important as the TIPs represent one of the higher radiation sources that personnel have a potential for encountering.

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The inspection revealed several weaknesses that contributed to the event. Lack of adequate personnel accountability verification and procedure clarity were primary causes. The lack of specific training on personnel accountability responsibility was a contributing factor.

Your staff identified the incident, took prompt and effective short term corrective actions and completed a thorough event investigation that delineated the sequence of events, causal factors, radiological analysis, and final corrective actions. Due to the low safety significance of the event and the well executed event investigation conducted by your staff, in accordance with the NRC Enforcement Policy 10 CFR 2, Appendix C, Section VII, no violation of regulatory requirements is being cited.

No response to this letter is required. Your cooperation with us is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By;  
James H. Joyner

James H. Joyner, Chief  
Facilities Radiological Safety  
and Safeguards Branch  
Division of Radiation Safety  
and Safeguards

Enclosure:

NRC Combined Inspection Report Nos. 50-277/93-02; 50-278/93-02

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cc w/encl:

R. N. Charles, Chairman, Nuclear Review Board  
D. B. Miller, Vice President, Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station  
G. Rainey, Vice President, Nuclear Services Department  
G. Cranston, General Manager, Nuclear Engineering Division  
C. Schaefer, External Operations - Nuclear, Delmarva Power & Light Co.  
K. P. Powers, Plant Manager, Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station  
A. A. Fulvio, Regulatory Engineer, Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station  
G. J. Beck, Jr., Manager, Licensing Section  
J. W. Durham, Sr., Senior Vice President and General Counsel  
J. A. Isabella, Director, Generation Projects Department,  
Atlantic Electric  
B. W. Gorman, Manager, External Affairs  
R. McLean, Power Plant Siting, Nuclear Evaluations  
D. Poulsen, Secretary of Harford County Council  
R. Ochs, Maryland Safe Energy Coalition  
J. H. Walter, Chief Engineer, Public Service Commission of Maryland  
Public Document Room (PDR)  
Local Public Document Room (LPDR)  
Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)  
K. Abraham, PAO (2)  
NRC Resident Inspector  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
TMI - Alert (TMIA)

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bcc w/encl:

Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)

E. Wenzinger, DRP

C. Anderson, DRP

DRS/EB SALP Coordinator

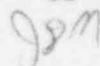
V. McCree, OEDO

J. Shea, NRR


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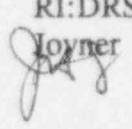
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