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Norman W. Curtis
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March 9, 1982

Mr. R. C. Haynes
Director, Region I
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION
10 CFR 21 REPORT ON A DEFICIENCY INVOLVING
GOLDFISH IN THE SPRAY POND
ERs 100450/100508 FILE NO. 821-10
PLA-1032

Dear Mr. Haynes:

This letter serves to provide the Commission with the report required by 10 CFR 21 relating to the existence of goldfish in the Susquehanna SES spray pond (ultimate heat sink).

Mr. A. Sabol of PP&L originally reported this deficiency by telephone to Mr. L. Narrow of NRC Region I on March 3, 1982. Written confirmation of the telephone conversation was transmitted via telecopier on March 4, 1982.

The spray pond, designed and constructed by the Bechtel Corporation, was initially filled in the spring of 1979. Goldfish which are the subject of this report do not occur naturally in the environment provided by the SSES spray pond. It has therefore been theorized that the goldfish were "stocked" in the spray pond as a prank. The existence of fish, in the size and quantity currently in the pond, has led to the conclusion that they have successfully reproduced for several years. Successful breeding has been at least partially attributable to the fact that it has been common practice for a great many of the large construction work force to feed the fish with lunch-bucket scraps.

The existence of goldfish had been known for some time, however the quantity present and potential hazard they might represent was not identified. On January 6, 1982, an evaluation was initiated to determine if the goldfish represent a safety hazard to the Emergency Service Water System. On March 2, 1982, the conclusion was reached that the existence of goldfish is reportable under 10 CFR 21 because the potential does exist for tubes in various safety related heat exchangers to become plugged should certain size fish or fragments of others be carrried in the cooling water. Plugging of the heat exchangers could occur to the extent that their cooling capacity could become sufficiently degraded so as to preclude performance of the heat exchangers intended safety function.

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This conclusion resulted in the March 3, 1982, telephone call to Mr. Narrow where he was advised that PP&L considered the existence of the extensive goldfish population in the spray pond to represent a deviation which could create a substantial hazard and therefor was reportable under the provisions of 10 CFR 21.

PP&L is now considering several alternatives for eliminating the goldfish from the spray pond. It is expected that goldfish elimination will be completed prior to the summer of this year.

Because the spray pond will be isolated from the construction forces after turnover to PP&L Plant Staff, it is anticipated that any remaining goldfish will not be as successful in breeding and a new population will not be introduced.

PP&L will periodically examine the spray pond to determine if additional corrective action is necessary to preclude reintroduction of a fish population into the spray pond.

Due to the unique circumstance of this situation, PP&L is not in a position to determine if similar conditions exist at other facilities.

We trust the Commission will find this report to be satisfactory.

Very truly yours,

for N. W. Curtis
Vice President-Engineering & Construction-Nuclear

JS:sab

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