

MAR 9 1994

Docket Nos. 50-334
50-412

Mr. J. D. Sieber
Senior Vice President
Nuclear Power Division
Duquesne Light Company
Post Office Box 4
Shippingport, Pennsylvania 15077

Dear Mr. Sieber:

SUBJECT: NRC COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT NOS. 50-334/94-03 AND
50-412/94-03

This letter refers to the announced safety inspection conducted by Mr. Michael J. Buckley and Mr. Ricardo A. Fernandes of this office from January 25, 1994, to January 28, 1994, at the Beaver Valley Nuclear Power Station in Shippingport, Pennsylvania. At the conclusion of the onsite inspection, the inspectors discussed the findings with Mr. D. Sperry, Mr. S. Fenner and other members of your staff.

Areas examined during the inspection are important to protect the health and safety of the public as discussed in the enclosed report. The purpose of this inspection was to review your activities to address the unusual event at Unit 1 on January 9, 1994. This unusual event was declared when a technical specification required shut down was initiated following the determination that there was inadequate river water flow through the containment recirculation spray coolers. Our inspectors determined that the corrective actions you have taken were adequate, and that the recirculation spray heat exchangers and the river water pumps were maintained in a condition capable of performing their design safety function.

The inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel and walkdowns by the inspector, and focused on the river water system and the past river water flow problems with recirculation spray heat exchangers. The immediate actions taken to resolve the Unit 1 recirculation spray heat exchanger flow blockage were conservative and timely. Our inspectors also noted that a similar flow blockage event previously occurred on October 21, 1991.

Based on the results of this inspection, certain of your activities appeared to be in violation of NRC requirements, as specified in the enclosed Notice of Violation. In particular, the corrective actions taken for the October 21, 1991, flow blockage event appeared to be inadequate to prevent recurrence on January 7, 1994.

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You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice of Violation when preparing your response. In the response, you should document the specific actions that you have taken and any additional actions you plan to prevent recurrence. After reviewing your response to this Notice, including your proposed corrective actions and the results of future inspections, the NRC will determine whether further NRC enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with NRC regulatory requirements.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

The responses directed by this letter and the enclosed Notice are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1989, Pub. L. No. 96-511.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

Dr. Plackeel K. Eapen, Chief
Systems Section
Engineering Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Enclosures:

1. Notice of Violation
2. NRC Inspection Report Nos. 50-334/94-03 and 50-412/94-03

cc w/encl:

G. S. Thomas, Vice President, Nuclear Services
D. E. Spoerry, Vice President, Nuclear Operations
L. R. Freeland, General Manager, Nuclear Operations Unit
K. D. Grada, Manager, Quality Services Unit
N. R. Tonet, Manager, Nuclear Safety Department
H. R. Caldwell, General Superintendent, Nuclear Operations
K. Abraham, PAO (2)
Public Document Room (PDR)
Local Public Document Room (LPDR)
Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)
NRC Resident Inspector
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
State of Ohio

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bcc w/encl:

Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)

W. Lazarus, DRP

D. Lew, DRP

bcc w/encl (VIA E-MAIL):

W. Butler, NRR

G. Edison, NRR

V. McCree, OEDO


M. Shannon, ILPB

RI:DRS

Buckley

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2/28/94


RI:DRS

Eapen

3/9/94

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