

ROBERT E. DENTON
Vice President
Nuclear Energy

Baltimore Gas and Electric Company
Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant
1650 Calvert Cliffs Parkway
Lusby, Maryland 20657
410 586-2200 Ext. 4455 Local
410 260-4455 Baltimore

April 11, 1994



U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

ATTENTION: Document Control Desk

SUBJECT: Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant
Unit No. 2; Docket No. 50-318
ASME Code Case Clarification for the 1990 Pressurizer Heater Sleeve
Repair / Replacement

The purpose of this letter is to clarify Baltimore Gas and Electric Company's (BGE) use of Code Case N-389 of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel (B&PV) Code for the 1990 Calvert Cliffs Unit 2 pressurizer heater sleeve repair/replacement work.

In the course of the engineering preparation for the current Unit 1 pressurizer heater sleeve repair work, we discovered that we had not formally requested and obtained NRC approval to use Code Case N-389, as stipulated by NRC Regulatory Guide 1.147, for the Unit 2 pressurizer repair work performed in 1990. Code Case N-389, "Alternative Rules for Repairs, Replacements, or Modifications, Section XI, Division 1," allows use of Editions and Addenda of ASME B&PV Code, Section XI, Division 1, subsequent to those specified in the licensee's inservice inspection program, provided the Edition and Addenda have been accepted by the enforcement and regulatory authorities having jurisdiction at the plant site. Regulatory Guide 1.147 permits use of Code Case N-389 provided the applicant submits for approval the appropriate edition and addenda of the Code that is to be used for the repair, replacement, or modification, in addition to those conditions specified in the Code Case, before start of work.

Baltimore Gas and Electric Company's prime contractor for the 1990 Unit 2 pressurizer repair/replacement project, B&W Nuclear Technologies, invoked the 1986 Edition of Section XI for the design and fabrication specifications. At the time of the Unit 2 repair, Section XI, 1986 Edition, was the latest edition approved by the NRC as referenced in Paragraph 55a(b) of 10 CFR Part 50; whereas, BGE was still committed to the requirements of Section XI, 1983 Edition, through Summer 1983 Addenda for inservice inspection.

Although we did not formally request NRC approval regarding the use of Code Case N-389 in order to invoke Section XI, 1986 Edition, we had amply notified the NRC of our intentions on a number of occasions as evidenced below.

- i) In a letter to the NRC dated July 13, 1989 (Reference a), we indicated our adoption of the alternative allowed by Section XI, 1983 Edition with Addenda through Summer 1983, Paragraph IWA-7210(c), when we requested NRC's approval for an

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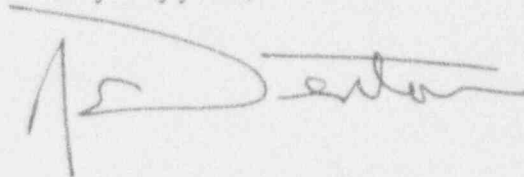
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alternative to the requirements of the Construction Code (Section III), per 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3). By letter dated October 27, 1989 (Reference b), we amended our July 13 request by changing the Code edition from Section XI, 1983 Edition with Addenda through Summer 1983, to Section XI, 1986 Edition. By doing so, we had clearly taken advantage of Code Case N-389 provisions without formally requesting its use per Regulatory Guide 1.147.

- ii) By letter dated November 3, 1989(Reference c), we transmitted the Calvert Cliffs Unit 2 pressurizer heater sleeve repair/replacement plan. Enclosure 1 of that letter explicitly specifies the use of Code Case N-389 and the 1986 Edition of Section XI, ASME B&PV Code.
- iii) On January 8, 1990, during a meeting with the NRC staff, we cited as one of our meeting objectives our desire to obtain approval for the use of the 1986 Edition of the ASME Code per Code Case N-389. This is documented in Reference (d).
- iv) By letter dated April 5, 1990 (Reference e), NRC approved BGE's proposal for an alternative to the requirements of the ASME Construction Code (Section III). In addition to that, we presume, this letter also implicitly approved the use of Section XI, 1986 Edition per Code Case N-389 for the reasons given in (i) above.

All activities discussed above, concerning the use of the 1986 Edition of Section XI, took place prior to its use in the repair/replacement work on the Unit 2 pressurizer heater sleeves. Therefore, it is our belief that the intent of the Regulatory Guide 1.147 was met. Should you have any questions regarding this matter, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "R. S. Carter", written over a horizontal line.

RED/GT/dlm

- REFERENCES:
- (a) Letter from Mr. G. C. Creel (BGE) to NRC Document Control Desk, dated July 13, 1989, Proposal of Alternative to ASME Code Section III Requirements
 - (b) Letter from Mr. G. C. Creel (BGE) to NRC Document Control Desk, dated October 27, 1989, Revision of Proposal of Alternative to ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code Section III Requirements
 - (c) Letter from Mr. G. C. Creel (BGE) to NRC Document Control Desk, dated November 3, 1989, Submittal of Pressurizer Heater Sleeve Repair/Replacement Plan
 - (d) Letter from Mr. D. E. LaBarge (NRC) to Mr. G. C. Creel (BGE), dated January, 1990, NRC-BGE January 8, 1990 Meeting Summary
 - (e) Letter from Mr. R. A. Capra (NRC) to Mr. G. C. Creel (BGE), dated April 5, 1990, Approval of ASME Code Use of Alternative Materials for Pressurizer Penetrations

cc: D. A. Brune, Esquire
J. E. Silberg, Esquire
R. A. Capra, NRC
D. G. McDonald, Jr., NRC
T. T. Martin, NRC
P. R. Wilson, NRC
R. I. McLean, DNR
J. H. Walter, PSC