

Certified By mal

PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY

PEACH BOTTOM ATOMIC POWER STATION

R. D. 1, BOX 168

DELTA, PENNSYLVANIA 17314

March 4, 1983

Mr. R. C. Haynes
 Administrator
 Region 1
 United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
 631 Park Avenue
 King of Prussia, PA 19406

SUBJECT: REPORTABLE OCCURRENCE - PROMPT NOTIFICATION

Confirming R. S. Fleischmann's conversation with Mr. Blough, Region 1,
 United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission on 3/3/83.

Reference: Docket No. 50-278
 Peach Bottom Unit 3
 Technical Specification Reference: 3.8.5

Report No. 3-83-7/1P
 Occurrence Date 3/3/83
 Identification Date: 3/3/83

Identification of Occurrence:

Unplanned release of radioactive water to storm drain system.

Conditions Prior to Occurrence:

Unit 3 shutdown during refueling outage.

Apparent Cause of Occurrence:

Water overflowing from the fuel pool and reactor cavity on elevation 234
 drained down to elevation 135 of the Unit 3 reactor building, and flowed
 out of the building under the railroad door and into the storm drain
 system.

Analysis of Occurrence:

On 3/3/83 at about 7:09 PM, an inadvertent initiation of RHR pumps
 A and B transferred approximately 60,000 gallons of water from the
 torus into the reactor. This initiation was apparently caused by
 surveillance testing of instruments in the ECCS system. Because the
 unit was in refueling with the reactor cavity flooded, most of this
 water overflowed onto the fuel floor and down the main hatchway to
 elevation 135. At elevation 135, some of the water flowed underneath

the railroad door and it is estimated that approximately 50 gallons of water entered the storm drain system outside the Unit 3 railroad door. A sample of the water taken at the release point measured 1.67×10^{-3} uCi/ml. Total release is estimated at 316 uCi. Primary isotopes involved were I-131, Zn-65, Cs-134, Cs-137, and Co-60. Concentrations of the above isotopes were respectively, about 14.5, 14.1, 4.4, 4.3, and 2.9 times mpc. Samples taken from the storm drain system along the discharge route to the river indicated decreasing concentrations. Samples taken at the discharge to the river and just prior to that discharge indicated no detectable activity. Dilution of the small amount of radioactive water by normal water flow in the storm drain system resulted in no detectable release to the river.

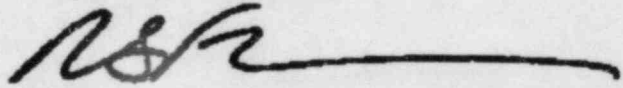
Corrective Action:

Operation of the RHR pump was immediately terminated. Immediate steps were taken to stop the entry of water into the storm drain system. Water in the catch basin at the railroad door was pumped out for processing as radwaste. Sampling of the storm drain system was initiated. Appropriate notifications were made.

Previous Failures:

3-81-13/1P

Very truly yours,



R. S. Fleischmann
Station Superintendent