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January 11, 1995

Mr. D. M. Smith  
Senior Vice President-Nuclear  
PECO Energy Company  
Correspondence Control Desk  
P. O. Box 195  
Wayne, PA 19087-0195

SUBJECT: COMBINED INSPECTION 50-277/94-27 AND 50-278/94-27

Dear Mr. Smith:

This letter transmits the findings of the resident safety inspection conducted by Messrs. R. R. Temps, F. P. Bonnett, R. K. Lorson, and M. W. McBrearty from November 13, 1994, through December 31, 1994, at the Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station, Delta, Pennsylvania. The inspectors based these findings on observation of activities, interviews, and document reviews, and discussed them with Mr. G. Edwards of your staff.

Both units were operated safely during the period. Good team work was noted between the operations, engineering, and maintenance groups in their response to addressing several Unit 2 equipment problems which had the potential to affect plant operation during the repair process; these included the replacement of a scram relay, the replacement of a failed wide range level transmitter, and the replacement of a defective relay base plate to correct a problem identified during a surveillance test on the E-333 safety-related circuit breaker.

In contrast to the otherwise good performance, an event occurred in December, at Unit 2, involving the release of a steam/water mixture into the reactor building during modification acceptance testing (MAT) on the reactor water cleanup (RWCU) system. An oversight in the MAT's system lineup procedure left open two newly installed RWCU instrument vent valves through which the release occurred when the RWCU system was pressurized during the MAT. Although the release was quickly identified and secured, three personnel received minor shoe contamination and portions of the Unit 2 reactor building were contaminated. No increase above normal release rates was observed in the monitored off-site release paths indicating that all contamination was contained within the Unit 2 reactor building. Health physics personnel reacted promptly and effectively to the situation and in the subsequent decontamination of the affected areas. A non-cited violation was issued as a result of PECO's failure to maintain proper valve configuration during the MAT.

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.

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Mr. D. M. Smith

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We appreciate your cooperation.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Clifford J. Anderson, Section Chief  
Projects Section 2B  
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket/License No. 50-277/DPR-44  
50-278/DPR-56

Enclosure:

1. NRC Region I Combined Inspection Report 50-277/94-27 and 50-278/94-27

cc w/encl:

J. Doering, Chairman, Nuclear Review Board  
G. Rainey, Vice President, Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station  
W. H. Smith, III, Vice President, Nuclear Station Support  
D. B. Feters, Director, Nuclear Engineering Division  
C. D. Schaefer, External Operations - Delmarva Power & Light Co.  
G. Edwards, Plant Manager, Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station  
A. J. Wasong, Manager, Experience Assessment  
G. A. Hunger, Jr., Director, Licensing  
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  
L. Jacobson, Peach Bottom Alliance  
PUBLIC  
Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)  
D. Screnci, PAO (2)  
NRC Resident Inspector  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
TMI - Alert (TMIA)

Mr. D. M. Smith

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bcc w/encl:  
Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)  
K. Gallagher, DRP

bcc w/encl: (Via E-Mail)  
W. Dean, OEDO  
J. Shea, NRR  
J. Stolz, PDI-2, NRR  
M. Shannon, ILPB

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