

March 14, 1995

Mr. D. M. Smith
Senior Vice President-Nuclear
Philadelphia Electric Company
Nuclear Group Headquarters
Correspondence Control Desk
P. O. Box 195
Wayne, PA 19087-0195

SUBJECT: NRC COMBINED INSPECTION NOS. 50-277/95-05 AND 50-278/95-05 AND
NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. Smith:

This letter refers to the announced reactive radiological controls inspection conducted by Mr. L. Eckert of this office and Mr. G. West, Jr. of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation on February 6-9, 1995 of activities authorized by NRC License Nos. DPR-44 and DPR-56 at the Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station, Delta, Pennsylvania. The inspection findings were discussed with Mr. G. Edwards and other members of your staff on February 9, 1995.

Areas reviewed during the inspection are important to health and safety, and are described in the NRC Region I Inspection Report which is enclosed with this letter. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selected examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observations by the inspectors. The inspection was conducted to review two recent events in which individuals made entries into posted high radiation areas without satisfying the radiological safety requirements. The NRC reviewed these two events and PECO Energy's response primarily to assure that radiological protection of plant personnel was being maintained and to determine whether corrective actions taken as a result of previous improper high radiation area entries should have precluded the events described in this report.

Overall, the inspectors concluded that your staff's event investigation was good and that corrective actions taken to prevent recurrence were appropriate. Your recognition of the need to increase ownership and accountability of station personnel for the radiological controls program, and your efforts regarding unlocked/uncontrolled high radiation areas, which have been taken so far, were noted as commendable by our inspectors. The inspectors did identify several suggestions for consideration by your staff. These are discussed in Section 6.7 of the enclosed inspection report.

However, based on the results of this inspection, certain of your activities were in violation of NRC requirements, as specified in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice). The violation is of concern and being cited because of the number of improper high radiation area entries which are described in the enclosed inspection report. The violation is not being considered for

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escalated enforcement, despite previous improper high radiation area entries (described in NRC Combined Inspection Report 50-277/93-27 and 50-278/93-27), due to the differences in causal factors, which are described in this report. Primarily, no willful/intentional aspects were identified during this inspection, which such aspects did appear to be associated with the 1993 events. Further, in the most recent events, radiological controls personnel failed to carry out their assigned duties in accordance with radiological control management's expectations; no similar causal factors were identified in the 1993 events.

You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. In your response, you should document the specific actions taken and any additional actions you plan to prevent recurrence. Your response may reference or include previous docketed correspondence, if the correspondence adequately addresses the required response. 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, its enclosures, and your response will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR). To the extent possible, your response should not include any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information so that it can be placed in the PDR without redaction. However, if you find it necessary to include such information, you should clearly indicate the specific information that you desire not to be placed in the PDR, and provide the legal basis to support your request for withholding the information from the public.

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 1980, Pub. L. No. 96.511.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:
James H. Joyner

James H. Joyner, Chief
Facilities Radiological Safety and
Safeguards Branch
Division of Radiation Safety and
Safeguards

Docket Nos. 50-277; 50-278

Enclosures:

1. Notice of Violation
2. NRC Combined Inspection Nos. 50-277/95-05 and 50-278/95-05 and Notice of Violation

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J. Doering, Chairman, Nuclear Review Board
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W. H. Smith, III, Vice President, Nuclear Station Support
D. B. Fellers, Director, Nuclear Engineering
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
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
TMI - Alert (TMIA)

D. M. Smith

4

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