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SHIELDS L. DALTRON
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July 17, 1984

Docket No. 50-278

Mr. John F. Stoltz
Operating Reactors Branch #4
Division of Licensing
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Mr. Stoltz:

During recent discussion between U.S. NRC staff and Philadelphia Electric Company concerning the proposed amendment to the Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station Unit 3 Technical Specifications to allow operation at increased core flow, the staff requested additional information regarding the implementation of SIL-380, BWR Core Thermal Hydraulic Stability, at Peach Bottom. This information is presented in Attachment I to this letter.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Very truly yours,



Attachment

cc: A. R. Blough, Site Inspector

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ATTACHMENT I

SIL-380, BWR Core Thermal Hydraulic Stability, provided various recommendations to minimize the possibility of thermal hydraulic instability in a BWR. These conditions of instability are most likely to occur at the high power/low flow corner of the power/flow map. This area of potential instability of the power/flow map is routinely avoided during operations at Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station (PBAPS). Additionally, the applicable operating procedures are being reviewed and revised to ensure that operation in this region will continue to be recognized and minimized.

The applicable operating procedures to be revised are:

| | |
|------------|--|
| GP-2/GP-2A | Startup |
| GP-3 | Shutdown |
| GP-9 | Fast Reactor Power Reduction |
| OT-1.12 | Recirculation Pump Trip |
| ST-3.3.2A | APRM Calibration for Single Loop Operation |
| ST-9.1 | Surveillance Log-Single Loop Operation |

Generally, the procedural revisions will direct that operations in the region of concern be avoided. In the unlikely event of extended, rather than transient or transient recovery, operations within the region of concern, as described in SIL-380, reactor engineering surveillance shall be provided to ensure that unrecognized conditions of instability do not develop and that corrective action is taken to minimize such instability if it does occur.

These procedural revisions are expected to be completed by August 15, 1984, and in no case later than the end-of-cycle scheduled reduction in feedwater temperature on PBAPS Unit 3.