

September 8, 1995

Mr. James E. Cross
Senior Vice President
Nuclear Power Division
Duquesne Light Company
Post Office Box 4
Shippingport, Pennsylvania 15077

SUBJECT: NRC REGION I SPECIAL INSPECTION REVIEW OF THE JULY 14, 1995,
POTENTIAL VALVE TAMPERING AT BEAVER VALLEY UNIT 2 INSPECTION
REPORT NOS. 50-334/95-80 AND 50-412/95-80

Dear Mr. Cross:

This letter transmits the Special Team Inspection (STI) report for the inspection led by Mr. C. J. Anderson at the Beaver Valley Power Station between July 22-27, 1995. This inspection reviewed the circumstances, causes, personnel actions, management performance and safety implications associated with the potential valve tampering event. At the conclusion of this inspection on July 27, 1995, the findings were discussed with you and other members of your staff.

The areas examined during the inspection included matters important to the health and safety of the public. These areas are identified in the enclosed inspection report. Within these areas the Special Team Inspection inspected the area containing the valve and other equipment anomalies; held discussions and formal interviews with personnel involved with this event; reviewed relevant records; and evaluated the adequacy of procedures, management oversight, communications, and personnel training.

The STI concluded that the event was likely a result of personnel error or poor work practices during the outage on May 1, 1995, and that the safety significance of the mispositioned valve was low. However, the Team is concerned that the event was not promptly treated as a potential tampering event at either unit until six days after the identification of the event to ensure that systems were properly aligned to accomplish their safety functions. In addition, significant communication deficiencies within your organization prevented you and other senior managers from having significant details about the event in a timely manner. The STI also identified weaknesses in the independent verification process; inadequate work control activities; and deficiencies in the documentation of work practices during the outage which contributed to your staff's inability to establish the as-left position of the valve.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and the enclosure will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

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Mr. James E. Cross

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No reply to this letter is necessary. We acknowledge and appreciate your excellent cooperation with our STI during this period.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By: W. Lanning for:

Richard W. Cooper, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos. 50-334;50-412

Enclosure: NRC Inspection Report Nos. 50-334/95-80 and 50-412/95-80

cc w/encl:

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Mr. James E. Cross

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