

September 22, 1995

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

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF VIOLATION (NRC REGION I INTEGRATED INSPECTION REPORT
NOS. 50-334/95-13 AND 50-412/95-13)

Dear Mr. Cross:

This report transmits the findings of the safety inspections conducted by NRC inspectors at the Beaver Valley Power Station from July 18 to August 28, 1995. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with Mr. T. Noonan, Mr. G. Thomas, and other members of your staff.

Areas examined during the inspection are identified in the report. The inspection consisted of document reviews, interviews, and observation of activities important to public health and safety. The purpose of the inspection was to determine whether activities authorized by the license were conducted safely and in accordance with NRC requirements.

Our inspectors found that, overall, the activities observed were effective in assuring the safe operation of the Beaver Valley Power Station. Your staff demonstrated a very good safety perspective by aggressive pursuit of an increase in the Unit 1 containment pump-out rate and good control and communications by operators at both units during plant start-ups. Also, the annual emergency preparedness exercise demonstrated your staff's ability to properly implement the site emergency plan in order to protect the health and safety of the public. However, based on the results of this inspection, certain of your activities appeared to be in violation of NRC requirements as specified in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice). Specifically, your staff identified an instance when reactor coolant pump seal injection flow exceeded Technical Specification limits after charging pump lineups were changed at Unit 2. After prompting by the inspectors, a second instance was identified in which seal injection flow exceeded limits. A contributing factor was that, on multiple occasions, your staff failed to perform a surveillance test to measure seal injection flow as specified by procedures. Although the initial violation was self-identified, it is being cited due to the multiple examples of failing to follow procedures and the limited scope of your staff's initial review. Both the human performance and root cause analysis weaknesses present in this issue are of concern because of the significance of these areas to performance weaknesses discussed in our recent Systematic Assessment on Licensee Performance for Beaver Valley.

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Mr. James E. Cross

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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. 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. Accordingly, your response should not, to the extent possible, include any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information so that it can be released to the public and placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

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.

Your cooperation with us is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by:

James C. Linville, Chief
Projects Branch No. 3
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos. 50-334; 50-412

Enclosure: 1. Notice of Violation
2. NRC Region I Integrated Inspection Report Nos. 50-334/95-13
and 50-412/95-13
3. SALP Slides

cc w/encls:

G. S. Thomas, Division Vice President, Nuclear Services
T. P. Noonan, Division Vice President & Plant Manager, Nuclear Operations
L. R. Freeland, General Manager, Nuclear Operations Unit
K. D. Grada, Manager, Quality Services Unit
N. R. Tonet, Manager, Nuclear Safety Department
H. R. Caldwell, General Superintendent, Nuclear Operations
M. Clancy, Mayor
D. Screnci, PAO (2 copies)
NRC Resident Inspector
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
State of Ohio

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