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December 21, 1995

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

ATTENTION: Document Control Desk

SUBJECT: Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant
Unit Nos. 1 & 2; Docket Nos. 50-317 & 50-318
Withdrawal of Amendment Request and Submittal of a New Amendment Request
- Lead Fuel Assemblies

- REFERENCES:
- (a) Letter from Mr. R. E. Denton (BGE) to NRC Document Control Desk, dated July 13, 1995, Lead Fuel Assembly - Temporary Exemption Request and Request for Amendment
 - (b) Letter from Mr. D. G. McDonald, Jr. (NRC) to NRC Document Control Desk, dated November 28, 1995, Temporary Exemption from 10 CFR 50.44, 10 CFR 50.46 and Appendix K to 10 CFR Part 50 for Lead Fuel Assemblies - Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Unit No. 1 (TAC No. M93232)

In Reference (a), we requested a temporary exemption and a Technical Specification change to allow the placement of four lead test fuel assemblies in the Unit 1 reactor core during Cycles 13, 14, and 15. These lead fuel assemblies have an advanced cladding material not specifically permitted by existing regulations or Calvert Cliffs Technical Specifications. The temporary exemption was granted to allow the use of these lead fuel assemblies (Reference b). We withdraw the requested Technical Specification amendments for Units 1 and 2 because we intend to evaluate generic exemption wording as part of our conversion to the Improved Standard Technical Specifications. Instead, we submit the attached Technical Specification change for Unit 1 only.

This proposed amendment would add the approved exemption to the Design Features Section (Technical Specification 5.2.1) describing the composition of fuel assemblies in the core. Currently, Technical Specification 5.2.1 describes the cladding for the fuel rods as being made of either zircaloy or ZIRLO. During Cycles 13, 14, and 15 for Unit 1, we plan to install four lead fuel assemblies utilizing an advanced cladding material. The Technical Specifications must be amended to allow the installation of these assemblies. We propose adding a statement to Unit 1 Technical Specification 5.2.1 to allow the installation

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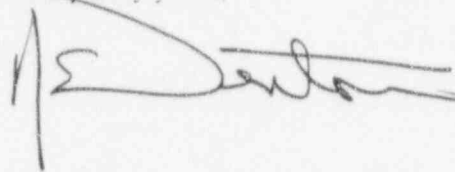
of the four lead fuel assemblies as described in the approved temporary exemption. The amendment applies to these four assemblies only and would no longer be valid once the exemption expires. The technical basis supporting the installation of the lead fuel assemblies was given in Reference (a), approved in Reference (b), and remains valid for this request.

We have evaluated the significant hazards considerations associated with this change as required by 10 CFR 50.92, and determined that there are none (see Attachment 1 for a complete discussion). We have also determined that operation with the proposed amendment would not result in any significant change in the types or significant increases in the amounts of any effluents that may be released offsite, and in no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. Therefore, the proposed amendment is eligible for categorical exclusion as set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). The Plant Operations and Offsite Safety Review Committees have reviewed the proposed change and concurred that the change will not result in an undue risk to the health and safety of the public.

We plan to place these assemblies into the core during the upcoming Unit 1 refueling outage. The refueling outage is scheduled to start on March 15, 1996. Since we cannot insert these assemblies into the core until this request is granted, we request that this amendment be approved by the outage start date.

Should you have questions regarding this matter, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Very truly yours,



STATE OF MARYLAND :
: TO WIT:
COUNTY OF CALVERT :

I hereby certify that on the 21 day of December, 1995, before me, the subscriber, a Notary Public of the State of Maryland in and for Calvert County, personally appeared Robert E. Denton, being duly sworn, and states that he is Vice President of the Baltimore Gas and Electric Company, a corporation of the State of Maryland; that he provides the foregoing response for the purposes therein set forth; that the statements made are true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information, and belief; and that he was authorized to provide the response on behalf of said Corporation.

WITNESS my Hand and Notarial Seal:

Michelle Hall
Notary Public

My Commission Expires:

February 2, 1998
Date

RED/PSF/dlm

- Attachments: (1) Determination of Significant Hazards
- (2) Unit 1 Marked-Up Technical Specification Pages

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cc: D. A. Brune, Esquire
J. E. Silberg, Esquire
L. B. Marsh, NRC
D. G. McDonald, Jr., NRC
T. T. Martin, NRC
Resident Inspector, NRC
R. I. McLean, DNR
J. H. Walter, PSC

ATTACHMENT (1)

DETERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANT HAZARDS

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DETERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANT HAZARDS

The proposed change has been evaluated against the standards in 10 CFR 50.92 and has been determined to not involve a significant hazards consideration, in that operation of the facility in accordance with the proposed amendments:

1. *Would not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated.*

The proposed change is to add an approved temporary exemption to the Unit 1 Technical Specifications allowing the installation of four lead fuel assemblies. These four assemblies use an advanced cladding material which is not specifically permitted by existing regulations or Calvert Cliffs' Technical Specifications. A temporary exemption to allow the installation of these assemblies was approved on November 28, 1995. The addition of this approved temporary exemption to Technical Specification 5.2.1 is simply intended to allow their installation under the provisions of the temporary exemption. The license amendment is effective only as long as the exemption is effective. The addition of the approved temporary exemption to Unit 1 Technical Specification 5.2.1 does not change the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated.

Therefore, this change does not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated.

2. *Would not create the possibility of a new or different type of accident from any accident previously evaluated.*

The proposed Technical Specification change adds an approved temporary exemption to Technical Specification 5.2.1 for Unit 1. This change does not add any new equipment, modify any interfaces with existing equipment, change the equipment's function, or change the method of operating the equipment. The proposed change does not affect normal plant operations or configuration. Since the proposed change does not change the design, configuration, or operation, it could not become an accident initiator.

Therefore, the proposed change does not create the possibility of a new or different type of accident from any accident previously evaluated.

3. *Would not involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety.*

The proposed change is to add an approved temporary exemption to the Unit 1 Technical Specifications allowing the installation of four lead fuel assemblies. These four assemblies use an advanced cladding material which is not specifically permitted by existing regulations or Calvert Cliffs' Technical Specifications. A temporary exemption to allow the installation of these assemblies was approved on November 28, 1995. The addition of this approved temporary exemption to Technical Specification 5.2.1 is simply intended to allow their installation under the provisions of the temporary exemption. The license amendment is effective only as long as the exemption is effective. This amendment does not change the margin of safety by adding a reference to an approved, temporary exemption to the Technical Specifications.

Therefore, the proposed change does not involve a significant reduction in the margin of safety.

ATTACHMENT (2)

UNIT 1

MARKED-UP TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

PAGE

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