

January 30, 1996

Mr. D. M. Smith  
Senior Vice President-Nuclear  
PECO Energy Company  
Correspondence Control Desk  
P. O. Box 195  
Wayne, Pennsylvania 19087-0195

SUBJECT: COMBINED INSPECTION 50-277/95-27 AND 50-278/95-27

Dear Mr. Smith:

This report transmits the findings of all the safety inspections conducted by NRC inspectors from November 26, 1995, through January 13, 1996, at the Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station, Delta, Pennsylvania. At the conclusion of the inspection, Mr. W.L. Schmidt discussed the findings with Mr. G. Edwards of your staff. The inspectors based these findings on independent observation of activities, interviews, and document reviews.

Your staff conducted normal operation and shutdown activities safely at both units. Maintenance and surveillance activities were generally well conducted. Engineering personnel responded well to several operating issues that developed. You continued to implement an effective radioactive waste program, however, we noted weaknesses in the training provided shipping personnel on radioactive material hazards and considered this an unresolved item. The report details several configuration control issues, identified by the inspectors, dealing with the implementation of general operating, maintenance, and surveillance procedures, these type of issues bear your attention.

The inspectors identified two unresolved items dealing with the operation of the safety-related standby gas treatment system. First, a system fan failed to start, due to a circuit breaker problem, following a momentary loss of logic power, as designed during switching of reactor protection power supplies. While this was not a valid initiation signal it was of safety significance since the failure did not occur during previous surveillance testing. Second, the inspectors questioned whether operation of this system in a non-design basis operating mode was an analyzed condition in accordance with the updated final safety analysis report. Subsequently, your staff identified that system procedures allowed operating configurations where it may not have been able to provide the design negative pressure differential on the secondary containment following a design basis accident with a single failure.

We request that you provide a written response to NRC Region I, within 30 day of receipt of this letter, to address the safety significance of the second SBTG unresolved item. The issues which we desire that you address are listed in the inspection report.

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Mr. D. M. Smith

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

We appreciate your cooperation.

Sincerely,



Walter J. Pasciak, Chief  
Projects Branch 4  
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket/License No. 50-277/DPR-44  
50-278/DPR-56

Enclosure:

1. NRC Region I Combined Inspection Report 50-277/95-27 and 50-278/95-27

cc w/encl:

G. A. Hunger, Jr., Chairman, Nuclear Review Board and Director, Licensing  
G. Rainey, Vice President, Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station  
D. B. Feters, Vice President, Nuclear Station Support  
J. Cotton, Director, Nuclear Engineering Division  
C. D. Schaeffer, External Operations - Delmarva Power & Light Co.  
G. Edwards, Plant Manager, Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station  
A. J. Wasong, Manager, Experience Assessment  
J. W. Durham, Sr., Senior Vice President and General Counsel  
P. MacFarland Goelz, Joint Generation, 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)

Mr. D. M. Smith

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