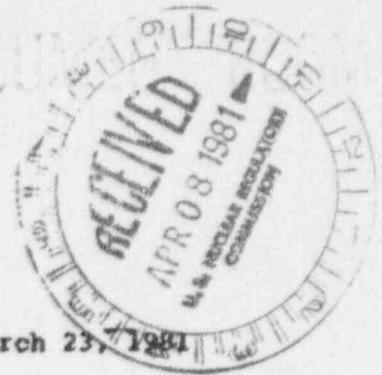


PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY
Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station
Delta, Pennsylvania
17314



March 23, 1981

Mr. Boyce H. Grier
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Region I
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406

SUBJECT: REPORTABLE OCCURRENCE - PROMPT NOTIFICATION

Confirming W. T. Ullrich's conversation with Mr. C. Cowgill, Region I, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Office of Inspection and Enforcement on March 20, 1981.

Reference: Docket No. 50-277/278
Peach Bottom Units 2 and 3
Technical Specification Reference: 3.8.C.8

Report No.: 2-81-19/1P
Occurrence Date: 3/20/81

Identification of Occurrence:

Re-evaluation of concrete block walls identified four walls which were unstable under the effects of an Operating Basis Earthquake.

Conditions Prior to Occurrence:

Unit 2 shut down for an unrelated forced outage. Unit 3 shut down for a refueling outage.

Apparent Cause of Occurrence:

Construction or design error.

Analysis of Occurrence:

During the re-evaluation of concrete block walls, walls number 102.8 and 102.9 (Unit 2), and wall 418.10 and 418.11 (Unit 3), were found to be unstable under the effects of an Operating Basis Earthquake. These walls are located on the refueling floor adjacent to the reactor building vent monitors and the conduit associated with these monitors. The vent monitors could become inoperable should the wall collapse during a seismic event. The referenced Technical Specifications indicate that the reactor building exhaust vent monitors must be operable for plant operation. If they become inoperable, a shutdown must be initiated within one hour and a hot shutdown condition achieved within 10 days. Since these monitors have no safety system logic, loss of these monitors has minimal safety significance. This is particularly true since the plant would be shutdown for other reasons in the event of an Operating Basis Earthquake.