

FEB - 7 1997

Mr. D. M. Smith, President
PECO Nuclear
Nuclear Group Headquarters
Correspondence Control Desk
P. O. Box 195
Wayne, Pennsylvania 19087-0195

SUBJECT: ROUTINE INTEGRATED INSPECTION 50-277/96-09 AND 50-278/96-09

Dear Mr. Smith:

This refers to the inspection conducted from November 10, 1996 through January 11, 1997, at the Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station, Delta, Pennsylvania. The purpose of the inspection was to determine whether activities authorized by the licensee were conducted safely, in accordance with NRC requirements. 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 continued to operate both units safely, as documented in the enclosed report. The plant operations review committee, the independent safety engineering group, and your quality assurance organization continue to perform well. Your staff responded well to several equipment problems identified during system surveillance testing and during operator rounds. On-line maintenance activity were conducted properly, minimizing out-of-service time. The inspectors identified one unresolved item dealing with your staff's inability to identify the cause of load fluctuations on the E-1 emergency diesel generator during testing operations. This item was of concern since, without a root cause, the possible affects on operability may not be clearly identifiable.

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.

We appreciate your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

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

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

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Enclosure:

1. NRC Inspection Report 50-277/97 and 50-278/97

cc w/encl:

G. Hunger, Jr., Chairman, Nuclear Review Board and Director, Licensing
G. Rainey, Senior Vice President, Nuclear Operations
T. Mitchell, Vice President, Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station
D. Fetters, Vice President, Nuclear Station Support
T. Neissen, Director, Nuclear Quality Assurance
C. Schaeffer, External Operations - Delmarva Power & Light Co.
G. Edwards, Plant Manager, Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station
G. Lengyel, Manager, Experience Assessment
J. Durham, Sr., Senior Vice President and General Counsel
P. MacFarland Goelz, Joint Generation, Atlantic Electric
B. Gorman, Manager, External Affairs
R. McLean, Power Plant Siting, Nuclear Evaluations
J. Vannoy, Acting Secretary of Harford County Council
R. Ochs, Maryland Safe Energy Coalition
J. Walter, Chief Engineer, Public Service Commission of Maryland
L. Jacobson, Peach Bottom Alliance
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
State of Maryland
TMI - Alert (TMIA)

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