November 9, 1994

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

SUBJECT: COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT NOS. 50-352/94-23 AND 50-353/94-23

Dear Mr. Smith:

This letter transmits the results of the resident safety inspection by Messrs. N. Perry, and T. Easlick, from September 27, through October 31, 1994, at the Limerick Generating Station, Limerick, Pennsylvania. The inspection focused on issues important to ensuring public health and safety and consisted of observations of activities, reviews of documents and interviews with plant personnel. The results are documented in the enclosed report and were discussed with Mr. R. Boyce of your staff at the conclusion of the inspection.

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). The violation is of concern because a similar event occurred in May 1994, when a Shift Manager did not declare an unusual event when confronted with contradicting dose assessments information. For that event the NRC concluded that he had adequate justification for not making the declaration. In September 1994, a Shift Manager was again placed in a position where he had to make a decision between two conflicting pieces of information, in order to make an emergency classification. Prior corrective actions were not adequate to prevent the September 1994, event and misclassification by the Shift Manager. Although the release was finally determined to be well below the established limits, false release level indications could mask actual releases that could be of concern. The NRC considers it important that control room personnel have accurate and reliable information upon which management can reach appropriate conclusions and take the required actions.

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. Your response may reference or include previous docketed correspondence, if the correspondence adequately addresses the required response. 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.

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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 (PDR). To the extent possible, your response should not include any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information so that it can be placed in the PDR without reduction; however, if you find it necessary to include such information, you should clearly indicate the specific information that you desire not to be placed in the PDR, and provide the legal basis to support your request for withholding the information from the public.

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 is appreciated.

Sincerely, ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Clifford J. Anderson, Chief Reactor Projects Section 2B, PB2 Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos. 50-352; 50-353

Enclosures:

1. Notice of Violation

2. NRC Region I Inspection Report 50-352/94-23 & 50-353/94-23

3. Attachment 1 (Handouts)

Mr. D. M. Smith

cc w/encls:

J. Doe ing, Chairman, Nuclear Review Board

D. R. Helwig, Vice President - Limerick Generating Station

G. A. Hunger, Jr., Director - Licensing
J. L. Kantner, Regulatory Engineer - Limerick Generating Station
Secretary, Nuclear Committee of the Board

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Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)

D. Screnci, PAO (2)

NRC Resident Inspector, Limerick

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Mr. D. M. Smith

bcc w/encl: Region I Docket Room (with concurrences) K. Gallagher, DRP

bcc w/encl: (Via E-Mail)

W. Dean, OEDO F. Rinaldi, NRR J. Stolz, PDI-2, NRR

M. Shannon, ILPB R. Keimig, RI, DRSS R. Elliott, NRR/SCSB Robert Jones, NRR/SRXB

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