

September 15, 1998

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

SUBJECT: NRC INTEGRATED INSPECTION REPORT 50-277/98-07, 50-278/98-07

Dear Mr. Rainey:

On August 10, 1998, the NRC completed an inspection at the Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station. The enclosed report presents the results of that inspection.

During the seven week period covered by this inspection period, your staff continued to operate both units at the Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station safely. In the operations area, we observed improvements in the use of peer checking. A new Operations Manual procedure, OM-P-11.4, "Operations Peer Check Program," provided enhanced guidance to operators regarding responsibilities and criteria for performing peer checks.

We also noted some minor unexpected equipment response events occurred during this period which related to incomplete understanding of system operating characteristics. Examples included a reactor water level excursion during transfer of the unit 3 feedwater control system computer and a rapid shutdown of the 2A condensate pump due to reduced turbine building closed cooling water flow. We have documented similar examples during the past year of lack of full understanding various systems operating characteristics by operations personnel contributing to unexpected plant equipment responses.

The radiation protection program at Peach Bottom and construction for the independent spent fuel storage installation (ISFSI) were also inspected by Region I specialists during this inspection period. These inspections consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observations by the inspectors. We determined that Peach Bottom staff implemented a generally effective applied radiological protection program. We noted that the external and internal exposure control programs and ALARA program performance were effective. We also determined that the ISFSI geotechnical report and associated regulatory analyses were acceptable.

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G. Rainey

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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 (PDR).

We appreciate your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

Clifford J. Anderson, Chief
Projects Branch 4
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos.: 50-277, 50-278
License Nos.: DPR-44, DPR-56

Enclosure: NRC Inspection Report No. 50-277/98-07 and 50-278/98-07

cc w/encl:

G. Edwards, Chairman, Nuclear Review Board and Director, Licensing
J. Doering, Vice President, Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station
J. Hagan, Vice President, Nuclear Station Support
R. Boyce, Director, Nuclear Quality Assurance
A. F. Kirby, III, External Operations - Delmarva Power & Light Co.
M. Warner, Plant Manager, Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station
G. J. Lengyel, Manager, Experience Assessment
J. W. Durham, Sr., Senior Vice President and General Counsel
T. M. Messick, Manager, Joint Generation, Atlantic Electric
W. T. Henrick, Manager, External Affairs, Public Service Electric & Gas
R. McLean, Power Plant Siting, Nuclear Evaluations
J. Vannoy, Acting Secretary of Harford County Council
R. Ochs, Maryland Safe Energy Coalition
J. H. Walter, Chief Engineer, Public Service Commission of Maryland
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Hiebert, Peach Bottom Alliance
Mr. & Mrs. Kip Adams
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
State of Maryland
TMI - Alert (TMIA)

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