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JOSEPH A. TIERNAN
VICE PRESIDENT
NUCLEAR ENERGY

May 20, 1988

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

ATTENTION: Document Control Desk

SUBJECT: Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant
Unit Nos. 1 & 2; Docket Nos. 50-317 & 50-318
Generic Letter 88-05, Boric Acid Corrosion of Carbon Steel Reactor Pressure Boundary Components in PWR Plants

Gentlemen:

In 1981, we recognized the need for a program to monitor for boric acid leakage onto carbon steel components and implemented a program that, on a refueling outage basis, examines carbon steel components that could be subject to a boric acid environment. In addition to this inspection program, a number of improvements have been made to reduce the potential for boric acid leakage onto components; valves with packing have been replaced with hermetically sealed valves in many instrument root lines and the reactor vessel head vent line; modifications have been performed to the reactor coolant pump seal tubing supports and the geometry of the seal pressure-indicating, vent, and bleed-off lines; and an extensive valve-repack program which includes those valves subject to boric acid leakage has been implemented.

The program currently in place is not formalized. Improvements in auditability and some adjustments to priorities need to be made. The existing program accomplishes the objectives of the subject generic letter. We realize the benefits of formalizing the program, and intend to do so. The revised program will be enhanced by incorporating all aspects mentioned in the subject generic letter. Examinations will continue as these improvements are made.

A formal program that complies with NRC Generic Letter 88-05 will be fully implemented by December 31, 1989. This timing allows for a thorough walkdown of each unit, which will ensure that all components requiring inspection will be included.

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Should you have any questions regarding this matter, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Very truly yours,

J A Tiernan

STATE OF MARYLAND :
: TO WIT:
COUNTY OF CALVERT :

I hereby certify that on the 20th day of May, 1988, before me, the subscriber, a Notary Public of the State of Maryland in and for Calvert County, personally appeared Joseph A. Tiernan, being duly sworn, and states that he is Vice President of the Baltimore Gas and Electric Company, a corporation of the State of Maryland; that he provides the foregoing response for the purposes therein set forth; that the statements made are true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information, and belief; and that he was authorized to provide the response on behalf of said Corporation.

WITNESS my Hand and Notarial Seal:

Donna L. McCrea
Notary Public

My Commission Expires:

July 1, 1990
Date

JAT/DLS/dlm

cc: D. A. Brune, Esquire
J. E. Silberg, Esquire
R. A. Capra, NRC
S. A. McNeil, NRC
W. T. Russell, NRC
D. C. Trimble, NRC