

25 MAR 1986

Docket Nos. 50-278/DPR-56

Philadelphia Electric Company
ATTN: Mr. S. L. Daltroff
Vice President
Electric Production
2301 Market Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19101

Gentlemen:

Subject: Inspection 50-278/86-09

This transmits the findings of a special safety inspection conducted by the NRC Resident Inspectors on March 18 - 21, 1986, at the Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station, Delta, Pennsylvania. The inspection consisted of a review of the causes for the occurrence of an out-of-sequence control rod withdrawal during the Unit 3 startup on March 17 - 18, 1986. These findings were based on observation of activities, interviews, document reviews, and were discussed with W. T. Ullrich and R. S. Fleischmann and of your staff on March 21, 1986.

Areas examined during this inspection are described in the NRC Region I Inspection Report which is enclosed with this letter.

Based on the results of our inspection, we are concerned about the operation of Peach Bottom Unit 3 with the rod worth minimizer out of service, concurrent with the bypassing of the rod sequence control system function by Shift Supervision and the failure of the two licensed operators to adequately verify the control rod withdrawal sequence. The details of these concerns are delineated in the enclosed special inspection report. An enforcement conference has been scheduled for March 27, 1986, in the Region I office to further discuss these concerns. At this conference you should be prepared to discuss your review of the concerns identified in the inspection report and corrective actions taken or planned.

The need for and nature of appropriate enforcement action relative to the issues identified in the enclosed report will be considered after this conference and will be the subject of separate correspondence at a later time. No response to this letter is required.

Your cooperation with us is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Richard W. Starostecki, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

CIR PB 86-09 - 0001.0.0
03/25/86

8603310157 860325
PDR ADOCK 05000278
Q PDR

1E0111

Enclosures:

1. NRC Region I Inspection Report No. 50-278/86-09

cc w/encls:

- ← R. S. Fleischmann, Manager (Receives All 2.790 Information)
- ← John S. Kemper, Vice President, Engineering and Research
- ← Troy B. Conner, Jr., Esquire
- ← W. H. Hirst, Director, Joint Generation Projects Department, Atlantic Electric
- ← Eugene J. Bradley, Esquire, Assistant General Counsel (Without Report)
- ← Raymond L. Hovis, Esquire
- ← Thomas Magette, Power Plant Siting, Nuclear Evaluations (Without Report)
- ← W. M. Alden, Engineer in Charge, Licensing Section
- Public Document Room (PDR)
- Local Public Document Room (LPDR)
- Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)
- ← NRC Resident Inspector
- ← Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

bcc w/encls:

- ← Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)
- ← Management Assistant, DRMA (w/o encl)
- ← Section Chief, DRP
- ← L. Bettenhausen, DRS
- ← G. Gears, NRR
- ← D. Holody, RI
- ← J. Gutierrez, RI
- ← E. Weiss, IE

[Handwritten Signature]
 RI: DRP
 Wi Mams/mjd
 3/25/86

[Handwritten Signature]
 RI: DRP
 J Wilson
 3/25/86

[Handwritten Signature]
 RI: DRP
 Gallo
 3/25/86

[Handwritten Signature]
 RI: DRP
 Collins
 3/25/86

[Handwritten Signature]
 RI: DRP
 Starostecki
 3/25/86

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

CIR PB 86-09 - 0002.0.0
03/25/86