

Docket File  
50-277



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

October 22, 1998

Mr. Garrett D. Edwards  
Director-Licensing, MC 62A-1  
PECO Energy Company  
Nuclear Group Headquarters  
Correspondence Control Desk  
P.O. Box No. 195  
Wayne, PA 19087-0195

SUBJECT: PEACH BOTTOM ATOMIC POWER STATION (PBAPS), UNIT 2, PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE PLAN FOR EXAMINATION OF REACTOR PRESSURE VESSEL SHELL LONGITUDINAL WELDS (TAC NO. MA1740)

Dear Mr. Edwards:

By letter dated April 2, 1998, as supplemented by letter dated August 12, 1998, PECO Energy Company (the licensee) requested the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's review and approval of an alternate plan for examination of the PBAPS, Unit 2, reactor pressure vessel (RPV) shell welds.

The proposed alternative is requested for the examination of the RPV circumferential shell welds (Section XI Exam Cat. B-A, Item No. B1.11) as required by 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(6)(ii)(A)(2), and the inservice inspection requirements for circumferential welds in the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, Section XI, 1980 Edition through Winter 1981 Addenda (Table IWB-2500-1, Examination Category B-A, Item No. B1.11) for two (2) operating cycles.

Additionally, the licensee stated that it is unable to meet the 90% volume coverage requirement for examination of each longitudinal weld of the PBAPS, Unit 2, RPV as required by 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(6)(ii)(A)(2). Therefore, the licensee proposes that an alternative examination plan be accepted in lieu of the 90% volume coverage.

The NRC staff has completed the evaluation of the proposed alternative plan for longitudinal weld examinations. The review of the alternative plan for the examination of circumferential welds is in progress and will be addressed in a separate action.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(6)(ii)(A)(5), the staff evaluated the licensee's proposed alternative of examining RPV shell longitudinal welds specified in Item B1.12 of Examination Category B-A, "Pressure Retaining Welds in Reactor Vessel," in Table IWB-2500-1 of Subsection IWB of the 1989 Edition of the ASME Code, Section XI and the augmented examination requirements in 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(6)(ii)(A)(2). The NRC staff has determined that, the licensee is unable to completely comply with the requirements, and the licensee's proposed alternative provides

200073

DF01

NRC FILE CENTER COPY

9811020097 981022  
PDR ADOCK 05000277  
P PDR

reasonable assurance of structural integrity and assures that the proposed alternative would provide an acceptable level of quality and safety. Accordingly, the licensee's proposed alternative is authorized pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(6)(ii)(A)(5).

The NRC staff's safety evaluation is enclosed.

Sincerely,

/s/

Robert A. Capra, Director  
Project Directorate I-2  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-277

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

DISTRIBUTION

|                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Docket File       | THarris(E-mail SE) |
| PUBLIC            | GHill(4)           |
| PDI-2 Reading     | BMcCabe            |
| JZwolinski        | ESullivan          |
| RCapra            | HConrad            |
| MThadani          |                    |
| MO'Brien          |                    |
| OGC               |                    |
| ACRS              |                    |
| CAAnderson, RGN-I |                    |

|        |             |          |           |                 |                  |
|--------|-------------|----------|-----------|-----------------|------------------|
| OFFICE | PDI-2/BM    | PDI-2/LA | EMCB/BC   | OGC             | PDI-2/D          |
| NAME   | MThadani:rb | MO'Brien | ESullivan | W. W. [unclear] | RCapra [unclear] |
| DATE   | 10/18/98    | 10/18/98 | 10/19/98  | 10/14/98        | 10/21/98         |

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY  
DOCUMENT NAME: PB1740.GEN

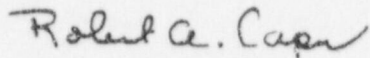
G. Edwards

- 2 -

reasonable assurance of structural integrity and assures that the proposed alternative would provide an acceptable level of quality and safety. Accordingly, the licensee's proposed alternative is authorized pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(6)(ii)(A)(5).

The NRC staff's safety evaluation is enclosed.

Sincerely,



Robert A. Capra, Director  
Project Directorate I-2  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-277

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

Mr. Garrett D. Edwards  
PECO Energy Company

Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station,  
Units 2 and 3

cc:

J. W. Durham, Sr., Esquire  
Sr. V.P. & General Counsel  
PECO Energy Company  
2301 Market Street, S26-1  
Philadelphia, PA 19101

Chief-Division of Nuclear Safety  
PA Dept. of  
Environmental Resources  
P.O. Box 8469  
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8469

PECO Energy Company  
ATTN: Mr. J. Doering, Vice President  
Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station  
1848 Lay Road  
Delta, PA 17314

Board of Supervisors  
Peach Bottom Township  
R. D. #1  
Delta, PA 17314

PECO Energy Company  
ATTN: Regulatory Engineer, A4-5S  
Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station  
1848 Lay Road  
Delta, PA 17314

Public Service Commission of Maryland  
Engineering Division  
Chief Engineer  
6 St. Paul Centre  
Baltimore, MD 21202-6806

Resident Inspector  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station  
P.O. Box 399  
Delta, PA 17314

Mr. Richard McLean  
Power Plant and Environmental  
Review Division  
Department of Natural Resources  
B-3, Tawes State Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Regional Administrator, Region I  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
475 Allendale Road  
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Dr. Judith Johnsrud  
National Energy Committee  
Sierra Club  
433 Orlando Avenue  
State College, PA 16803

Mr. Roland Fletcher  
Department of Environment  
201 West Preston Street  
Baltimore, MD 21201

Manager-Financial Control & Co-Owner  
Affairs  
Public Service Electric and Gas  
Company  
P.O. Box 236  
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038-0236

A. F. Kirby, III  
External Operations - Nuclear  
Delmarva Power & Light Company  
P.O. Box 231  
Wilmington, DE 19899

Manager-Peach Bottom Licensing  
PECO Energy Company  
Nuclear Group Headquarters  
Correspondence Control Desk  
P.O. Box No. 195  
Wayne, PA 19087-0195

PECO Energy Company  
Plant Manager  
Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station  
1848 Lay Road  
Delta, PA 17314