

February 26, 1998

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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: EXAMINATION REPORT NOS. 50-277/97-09 AND 278/97-09 (OL)

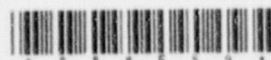
Dear Mr. Smith:

During the period of September 22, 1997 to September 26, 1997, the NRC administered initial examinations to 10 employees of your company who had applied for licenses to operate the Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station, Units 2 and 3.

Both of the reactor operator (RO) and seven of the senior reactor operator (SRO) applicants passed the examinations and were subsequently issued licenses. One SRO applicant failed the operating portion of the examination.

The examination was prepared by your staff using the Examiner Standards, NUREG 1021 Rev. 8 as guidance. During the examination developmental process, your staff identified similarities between the PECO proposed examination and an audit examination administered at Public Service Electric and Gas Co.'s Hope Creek Nuclear Generating Station (HCNGS) during the week of September 1, 1997. PECO Energy did a satisfactory job of controlling information regarding the similarities and revised some parts of the examination to reduce the similarities. While the similarities represented an unnecessary, unfortunate complication of the examination, the NRC determined the examination to be acceptable. A detailed review of the exam results by PECO and the NRC staff failed to identify indications that an examination compromise occurred. Accordingly, the examination was judged to be a valid basis for issuing licenses.

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Mr. D. M. Smith

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We regret that internal processing difficulties caused transmittal of this report to be delayed. Should you have any questions regarding this information, please contact Carl Sisco of my staff at (610) 337-5076 or me at (610) 337-5211.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Conte, Chief
Operator Licensing and
Human Performance Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 50-277;50-278

cc w/encl; w/Attachments 1-3:

L. MacEntee, Acting Director - Training

cc w/encl; w/o Attachments 1-3:

G. Edwards, Chairman, Nuclear Review Board and Director, Licensing
T. Mitchell, Vice President, Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station
G. Rainey, Senior Vice President, Nuclear Operations
J. B. Cotton, Vice President, Nuclear Station Support
T. Niessen, 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)

Mr. D. M. Smith

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DRS Master Exam File

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Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)

J. Wiggins, DRS

C. Sisco, Chief Examiner, DRS

NRC Resident Inspector

DRS OL Facility File

DRS File

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B. McCabe, OEDO

L. M. Padovan, PM, NRR

J. Stolz, PDI-2, NRR

Inspection Program Branch, NRR (IPAS)

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