

August 18, 1999

Mr. J. E. Cross
Generation Group
Duquesne Light Company
Post Office Box 4
Shippingport, Pennsylvania 15077

SUBJECT: NRC INTEGRATED INSPECTION REPORT NOS. 50-334/99-04

Dear Mr. Cross:

This refers to the inspection conducted from June 13 to July 24, 1999, at the Beaver Valley Power Station facility. The enclosed report represents the results of this inspection.

During the 6-week inspection period, your conduct of activities at the Beaver Valley Power Station facility was generally characterized by safe operation and response to transients. Unit 2 operators took prompt action to isolate an electrical fault and stabilize the plant following a loss of the 2DF emergency 4 kilovolt electrical bus. The unit was safely shut down as required by technical specifications to resolve an inoperable emergency diesel generator. Industry operating experience evaluations were typically thorough and industry issue backlogs were reduced by 30%. Engineers properly evaluated several emergent material problems to support Unit 2 restart.

Notwithstanding, our inspectors identified several problems which challenged your ability to complete safety related maintenance activities in a timely manner. Manpower constraints, ineffective communications, untimely work package planning, and poor prejob walkdowns delayed several Unit 1 maintenance activities thereby increasing overall plant risk. The poor schedule implementation represented a weakness. Additionally, two problems associated with the forced Unit 2 shutdown were not fully evaluated and addressed at Unit 1 until questioned by our inspectors. I understand that you are addressing these issues through your corrective action program.

Based on the results of this inspection, the NRC has determined that one violation of NRC requirements occurred, which you identified. This violation is being treated as a Non-Cited Violation (NCV), consistent with Appendix C of the Enforcement Policy. This NCV involved a failure to maintain the containment equipment hatch closed during fuel movement. The NCV is described in the subject inspection report. If you contest the violation or severity level of the NCV, you should provide a response within 30 days of the date of this inspection report, with the basis for your denial, to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Document Control Desk, Washington DC 20555-0001, with a copies to the Regional Administrator, Region I, and the Director, Office of Enforcement, United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

9908240064 990818
PDR ADOCK 05000334
G PDR

12:01

Mr. J. E. Cross

2

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.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

Peter W. Eselgroth, Chief
Reactor Projects Branch 7
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos.: 50-334, 50-412
License Nos: DRP-66, NPF-73

Enclosure: Inspection Report Nos. 509-334/99-04, 50-412/99-04

cc w/encl:

S. Jain, Senior Vice President, Nuclear Services Group
L. Myers, Executive Vice President, Generation Group
K. Ostrowski, Vice President, Nuclear Operations Group and Plant Manager
B. Tuite, General Manager, Nuclear Operations Unit
W. Kline, Manager, Nuclear Engineering Department
M. Pearson, Manager, Quality Services Unit
M. Ackerman, Manager, Safety & Licensing Department
J. Macdonald, Manager, System and Performance Engineering
J. A. Hultz, Manager, Projects and Support Services, FirstEnergy
M. Clancy, Mayor, Shippingport, PA
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
State of Ohio
State of West Virginia

Distribution w/encl:

Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)
 Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)
 PUBLIC
 NRC Resident Inspector
 H. Miller, RA/J. Wiggins, DRA
 P. Eselgroth, DRP
 N. Perry, DRP
 C. O'Daniell, DRP

Distribution w/encl (VIA E-MAIL):

M. Tschiltz, OEDO
 E. Adensam, PD1, NRR
 S. Bajwa, PDI-1, NRR
 D. Collins, PM, PDI-1, NRR
 V. Nerses, PDI-1 NRR
 R. Correia, NRR
 DOCDESK
 Inspection Program Branch, NRR (IPAS)

DOCUMENT NAME: G:\BRANCH7\Beaver Valley\ir9904.bv.wpd

To receive a copy of this document, indicate in the box: "C" = Copy without attachment/enclosure "E" = Copy with attachment/enclosure "N" = No copy

OFFICE	RI/DRP		RI/DRP	E			/	
NAME	<i>[Signature]</i>		Eselgroth					
DATE	8/12/99		8/15/99					

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY