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U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Subject: Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit No. 1
BV-1 Docket No. 50-334, License No. DPR-66
Updated Information Regarding Bulletin 2001-01 and Bulletin 2002-01

This letter provides updated information for Beaver Valley Power Station (BVPS) Unit 1 regarding NRC Bulletins 2001-01 and 2002-01. These Bulletins were issued, in part, to obtain plant-specific information related to the integrity of the reactor pressure vessel (RPV) head and the extent to which inspections have been undertaken.

On October 31, 2001, our response (Reference 1) to Bulletin 2001-01 for BVPS Unit 1 provided a report of the visual examinations performed during the 1R14 Refueling Outage. The bare metal inspection of the BVPS Unit 1 RPV head indicated no active leakage. However, no cleaning of the as-found condition of the RPV head was performed at that time.

Subsequent correspondence (Reference 2) stated that the next visual examination for the Unit 1 RPV head would occur during the next refueling outage (1R15 scheduled for March 2003.) Our submittal (Reference 4) dated May 10, 2002 stated that the entire head would also be cleaned at that time, unless there was an outage of sufficient duration to allow cleaning prior to 1R15.


Updated information is being provided at this time because BVPS completed a Unit 1 maintenance outage in November 2002 to visually inspect and clean the Unit 1 RPV head. Therefore, a summary of the results of the qualitative visual inspection and cleaning efforts are being submitted for your information as Enclosure 1 to this letter.

These actions should enable BVPS Unit 1 to be re-categorized with respect to the Materials Reliability Program (MRP) survey that had been conducted by EPRI for PWR plants. Our correspondence (Reference 3) to the NRC dated April 19, 2002, explained that because the RPV head had not been cleaned at the time, BVPS Unit 1 did not fit into the categories defined by the MRP acceptance criteria, and its category was, therefore, designated as "other." The MRP Category 2 includes plants that: detected boric acid

accumulations during their bare metal inspections, removed those accumulations, and re-inspected the affected areas. Therefore, the recent cleaning and inspection of the Unit 1 RPV head results in BVPS Unit 1 being an MRP Category 2 plant.

If there are any questions concerning this matter, please contact Mr. Larry R. Freeland, Manager, Regulatory Affairs/Performance Improvement at 724-682-5284.

Sincerely,



Mark B. Bezilla

Enclosure

References:

1. L-01-136 dated October 31, 2001, BV-1 Reply to Bulletin 2001-01 for 1R14
2. L-02-032 dated April 1, 2002, BVPS 15-day Reply to Bulletin 2002-01
3. L-02-040 dated April 19, 2002, BVPS Supplemental Reply to Bulletin 2002-01
4. L-02-054 dated May 10, 2002, BVPS Reply to RAI re: Bulletins 2001-01 & 2002-01

- c: Mr. D. S. Collins, Project Manager
Mr. D. M. Kern, Sr. Resident Inspector
Mr. H. J. Miller, NRC Region I Administrator
Mr. D. A. Allard, Director BRP/DEP
Mr. L. E. Ryan (BRP/DEP)
Ms. C. O'Clair, Ohio Emergency Management Agency

Enclosure 1

Cleaning and Inspection Results

November 2002 Maintenance Outage

Beaver Valley Power Station (BVPS) Unit 1

The following actions were taken during the Unit 1 Maintenance Outage (1MO2):

The RPV head was visually inspected using high-resolution remote visual examination equipment and video probes. The current as-found condition was compared to the as-left condition from the most recent refueling outage. No evidence of leakage or abnormal conditions were observed.

The head was cleaned using warm low-pressure water to remove the previously identified boric acid crystal residue and debris from the head area.

Following the cleaning, a visual examination of the RPV head was again performed to document the as-left condition.

Additionally, a qualitative visual examination was performed of the bottom of the RPV (between the RPV and the insulation). No indication of leakage or boric acid build-up was observed. The results of this inspection were discussed with members of the NRC staff via conference call on November 16, 2002.