

August 7, 2000

Mr. James A. Hutton
Director-Licensing, MC KSA3-E
PECO Energy Company
Nuclear Group Headquarters
Correspondence Control Desk
P.O. Box 160
Kennett Square, PA 19348

SUBJECT: PEACH BOTTOM ATOMIC POWER STATION (PBAPS), UNITS 2 AND 3,
GENERIC LETTER 96-06 RE: WATERHAMMER, TWO-PHASE FLOW, AND
THERMALLY-INDUCED PRESSURIZATION (TAC NOS. M96848 AND M96849)

Dear Mr. Hutton:

Generic Letter (GL) 96-06, "Assurance of Equipment Operability and Containment Integrity During Design-Basis Accident Conditions," dated September 30, 1996, included a request for licensees to evaluate cooling water systems that serve containment air coolers to assure that they are not vulnerable to waterhammer, two-phase flow, and thermally-induced pressurization conditions. PECO Energy Company, the licensee for PBAPS Units 2 and 3, provided its assessment for PBAPS Units 2 and 3 in a letter dated January 28, 1997. Additional information was provided in letters dated May 27, 1997, September 11, 1998 and October 6 and November 18, 1999.

Based on our review of the information provided in the January 28, 1997, September 11, 1998, and October 6, 1999, letters, with respect to the waterhammer and two-phase flow issues, it is our understanding that: (a) the head tank for the reactor building closed cooling water system maintains sufficient system overpressure to prevent steam from forming during the event scenarios of interest, and (b) waterhammer or two-phase flow conditions will not occur during the postulated worst-case conditions (including single failure assumptions). Based on our review of the licensee's response, we conclude that the waterhammer and two-phase flow elements of GL 96-06 are hereby closed.

With respect to thermally-induced pressurization, in its submittal of January 28, 1997, the licensee identified nine containment penetrations as potentially vulnerable to a water solid volume that may be subjected to an increase in pressure due to heating of trapped fluid. The licensee determined that all penetrations are operable based on the piping plastic deformation. The licensee committed to submit its plan for long-term corrective action and an implementation schedule by May 31, 1997. In its submittal of May 27, 1997, the licensee committed to install

thermal relief valves during the refueling outage in October 1998 and October 1999, for Units 2 and 3, respectively. The licensee, in its submittal of November 18, 1999, confirmed the completion of its long-term corrective action. The staff finds the licensee's corrective action provides an acceptable resolution for the issue of thermally-induced pressurization of piping runs penetrating the containment.

This completes the staff's review of GL 96-06 and the staff is closing out TAC Nos. M96848 and M96849.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Bartholomew C. Buckley, Sr. Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate 1
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-277 and 50-278

cc: See next page

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Units 2 and 3

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