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January 6, 1984

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: D. G. Eisenhut, Director
Division of Licensing
Washington, DC 20555

Reference: Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit No. 1
Docket No. 50-334, License No. DPR-66
Response to Generic Letter 83-41

Gentlemen:

The Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit 1 Technical Specifications for the emergency diesel generator requires a 31-day, staggered basis, start and an 18-month fast start from ambient condition to synchronous speed, energizing the permanent and auto-connected emergency bus loads.

1. Beaver Valley 1 has had a total of eight diesel generator fast starts during the period of December 1, 1982 to December 1, 1983.

	Train A	Train B
Surveillance Test	1	1
Maintenance Activities	-	-
Actual Demands with Emergency Bus Loads supplied by Diesel*	2	2
Additional fast starts due to SIS actuation	1	1

In addition to the fast starts, the Train A diesel generator has been started 15 times and the Train B has been started 16 times as a result of surveillance and maintenance activities.

2. Duquesne Light believes that frequent fast starts of the diesel generator degrades reliability and availability due to:

- excessive equipment cycling, on breakers, relay contacts, shaft driven components
- increased mechanical wear, on bearings and stresses imposed by fast starting and loading of the diesel.

* LER 83-02, LER 83-16 Train A
LER 83-15, LER 83-20 Train B

None of these incidents resulted in concurrent losses of power to both emergency busses and power was restored in a relatively short period of time.

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Additional information on Beaver Valley 1 diesel generators is available in our responses to Generic Letter 81-04, November 30, 1981 and NUREG-0737 II.K.3.17, August 3, 1982.

We believe that fast starts should be limited to once per 18 months with the diesel supplying the emergency bus providing that historically, the particular grid stability has proven reliability. Specifically, events which have resulted in concurrent losses of Non-IE power to both emergency busses should be used as the screening criteria to determine if fast starting test frequencies must be increased.

If you have any questions on this response, please contact our Nuclear Safety and Licensing Department directly.

Very truly yours,

Robert F. Baker for

J. J. Carey
Vice President, Nuclear

cc: Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
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