

PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY

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SHIELDS L. DALTROFF
VICE PRESIDENT
ELECTRIC PRODUCTION

April 13, 1984

Docket No. 50-277
50-278

Dr. Thomas E. Murley
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region I
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Dear Dr. Murley:

This letter identifies an inconsistency at the Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station between the current routing of several electric cables and the plant's original design criteria. The original criteria specified that 480-volt power cable should not be routed through the cable spreading room except for air conditioning unit feeds in conduit. Recently, 480-volt power cables were found to be routed through the Cable Spreading Room in cable trays. The Peach Bottom Resident Inspector was informed of this condition on March 13, 1984. The cables are all three conductor cables, seven containing AWG #10 wire and one containing AWG #2 wire. The power cables feed various fans, sample pumps, and battery chargers.

This condition resulted from a failure to comply with the routing specifications during the original design of the plant approximately fifteen years ago. Tests performed by Sandia Corporation and Wyle Labs have shown that fire does not propagate in cables qualified to IEEE Standard 383 when subjected to fault conditions. All the 480-volt power cables at issue are qualified to IEEE Standard 383. Consequently, the possibility of fire propagation with the current design is minimal and does not represent a significant hazards consideration.

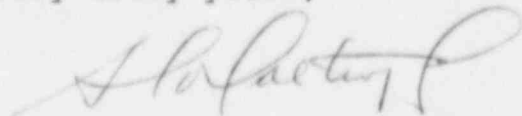
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Further, the presence of power cables in Cable Spreading Room does not conflict with the Peach Bottom FSAR, and consequently is not outside the design basis of the plant. However, this condition is inconsistent with the original design criteria, and we consider it appropriate to inform you of our plans for corrective action. The eight power cables at issue will be rerouted to bypass the Cable Spreading Room to conform to the original design criteria. The rerouting on Unit 2 will be completed during the upcoming refueling outage scheduled to start in May 1984. The Unit 3 reroute work not requiring a plant outage is expected to be completed by September 1984. Some of the cable terminations may require a plant outage, such as the feed to the Unit 3 battery charger; and this work will be performed during the first outage, commencing after September 1, 1984, with an expected duration of at least 30 days.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Very truly yours,



cc: A. R. Blough, Site Inspector