

**PECO NUCLEAR**

A Unit of PECO Energy

IEB 80-13

PECO Energy Company
965 Chesterbrook Boulevard
Wayne, PA 19087-5691

September 26, 1996

Docket No. 50-277

License No. DPR-44

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Center
Washington, DC 20555Subject: Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station, Unit 2
Core Spray In-Vessel Piping

Dear Sir:

The purpose of this letter is to submit a 10 CFR 50.59 safety evaluation for crack indications identified in the Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station, Unit 2 Core Spray (CS) System, and to request U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (USNRC) approval of this evaluation. This letter is submitted in accordance with IE Bulletin 80-13, "Cracking in Core Spray Spargers," which requests that licensees submit an evaluation of the crack indications to USNRC prior to returning to operation.

The crack indications were identified during the current refueling outage 2R11 while performing an enhanced VT-1 visual examination of the Tee Box on the Loop B header (120 AZ) of the CS System. The examinations were performed in accordance with guidance developed by the Boiling Water Reactor Vessel and Internals Project (BWRVIP) ("BWR Core Spray Internals Inspection and Flaw Evaluation Guidelines," BWRVIP-18, dated July, 1996) as discussed in our letters dated August 6, 1996 and September 12, 1996 (letters from G. A. Hunger, Jr. (PECO Energy Company) to USNRC). These crack indications were identified on September 20, 1996.

Specific details of the crack indications were discussed with the USNRC during a September 25, 1996 telephone call. As requested during this call, PECO Energy is providing the USNRC, in Attachment A, a 10 CFR 50.59 safety evaluation of the crack indications. This 10 CFR 50.59 safety evaluation provides justification for continued operation of PBAPS, Unit 2 for an additional cycle. This 10 CFR 50.59 safety evaluation was approved by the Plant Operations Review Committee on September 26, 1996.

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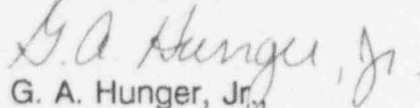
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PECO Energy requests USNRC approval of the enclosed evaluation. Resolution of this issue is potentially critical path with respect to completing the current refueling outage. Therefore, your prompt response is appreciated.

If you have any questions, please contact us.

Very truly yours,



G. A. Hunger, Jr.,

Director

Licensing Section

Attachments

cc: H. J. Miller, Administrator, Region I, USNRC
W. L. Schmidt, USNRC Senior Resident Inspector, PBAPS

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Attachment A