



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

October 31, 1996

Mr. George A. Hunger, Jr.
Director-Licensing, MC 62A-1
PECO Energy Company
Nuclear Group Headquarters
Correspondence Control Desk
P.O. Box No. 195
Wayne, PA 19087-0195

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (RAI) RELATED TO WIDE RANGE
NEUTRON MONITOR TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION, PEACH BOTTOM ATOMIC POWER
STATION (PBAPS), UNITS 2 AND 3 (TAC NOS. M91330 AND M91331)

Dear Mr. Hunger:

By letter dated January 17, 1995, PECO Energy Company submitted License Change Request (LCR) 93-18 requesting changes to Appendix A of the PBAPS, Units 2 and 3, Facility Operating Licenses. The proposed changes were submitted to support PBAPS Modification P00271, which would replace the Source Range and Intermediate Range Neutron Monitors with the new Wide Range Neutron Monitoring System (WRNMS).

On June 9, 1995, the staff issued a safety evaluation regarding the proposed WRNMS design. The staff found the proposed installation of the WRNMS acceptable. However, the staff deferred its review of the proposed WRNMS Technical Specifications (TSs) pending completion of the then ongoing review of PECO Energy Company's proposal to convert to Improved Technical Specifications (ITS).

On April 4, 1996, the staff issued an RAI regarding proposed TSs for the WRNMS. You provided a response on July 2, 1996. The staff has reviewed your July 2, 1996 submittal and finds that it needs some additional information to complete its review. The staff's RAI is enclosed.

You are requested to reply to this RAI in a timely manner, consistent with the review schedule requested in your January 17, 1995 application.

DF01/1

If you have any questions on the WRNMS review, please do not hesitate to contact me at (301) 415-1428.

Sincerely,

/S/

Joseph W. Shea, Project Manager
Project Directorate I-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-277/50-278

Enclosure: RAI

cc w/encl: See next page

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OFFICE	PDI-2/PM	PDI-2/LA	PDI-2/PD		
NAME	JShea	MO'Brien	JStolz		
DATE	10/17/96	10/17/96	10/30/96		

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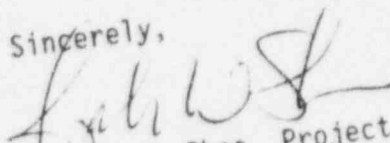
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G. Hunger, Jr.

If you have any questions on the WRNMS review, please do not hesitate to contact me at (301) 415-1428.

Sincerely,


Joseph W. Shea, Project Manager
Project Directorate 1-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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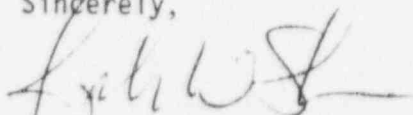
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G. Hunger, Jr.

- 2 -

If you have any questions on the WRNMS review, please do not hesitate to contact me at (301) 415-1428.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. W. Shea", written over the typed name.

Joseph W. Shea, Project Manager
Project Directorate I-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-277/50-278

Enclosure: RAI

cc w/encl: See next page

Mr. George A. Hunger, Jr.
PECO Energy Company

Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station,
Units 2 and 3

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REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

PEACH BOTTOM ATOMIC POWER STATION, UNITS 2 AND 3

WIDE RANGE NEUTRON MONITORING SYSTEM (WRNMS)

The staff has reviewed the licensee's submittals dated January 17, 1995 and July 2, 1996, and finds that it requires additional information to be able to complete its evaluation of the proposed changes to the technical specifications (TSs) for PBAPS Units 2 and 3.

1. The licensee has proposed to increase the surveillance interval for the existing SRs 3.3.1.1.11 and 3.3.1.2.7 from 6 to 24 months. The licensee justifies this, in part, by using the WRNMS estimated drift effects for 24 months in the normal, NRC-approved, setpoint methodology when calculating WRNMS setpoints.

Amendments Nos. 179 and 182 to Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-44 and DPR-56 (PBAPS Units 2 and 3) result in TS surveillance intervals of 24 months being defined as operating cycle or refueling cycle, and allows a 25-percent grace period beyond the 24 months (i.e., 30 months) unless otherwise specified in the TS. In Generic Letter (GL) 91-04, "Changes in Technical Specification Surveillance Intervals to Accommodate a 24-month Fuel Cycle," dated April 2, 1991, the staff requires that the licensee account for the maximum of 30 months in considerations regarding a 24-month fuel cycle.

Has the licensee used the estimated drift effects for 30 months when calculating the WRNMS setpoints? If not, please account for the maximum 30-month surveillance interval in associated setpoint calculations and revise the proposed TSs if necessary.

2. In the October 19, 1992, application to revise TS instrument surveillance intervals to 24-months, the licensee committed to establish a program for monitoring and assessing the effects of increased calibration intervals on instrument drift. The purpose of this monitoring program is to provide a means to verify the assumptions made in the setpoint methodology with regard to instrument drift. This monitoring also provides a method to determine the adequacy of a surveillance interval. The licensee's drift trending program commits to evaluate a reduction in surveillance interval for any calibration surveillance that fails to prove satisfactory.

Has the licensee included the above two surveillance requirements in that monitoring program or has the licensee provided other means for monitoring and assessing the effects of the proposed increased calibration intervals?