



PECO NUCLEAR

A Unit of PECO Energy

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

November 15, 1996

Docket Nos. 50-277
50-278

License Nos. DPR-44
DPR-56

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555

Subject: Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station, Units 2 and 3
Response to Resolution of Spent Fuel Pool Safety Concerns

Dear Sir:

This letter is in response to the letter from J. W. Shea (U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (USNRC)) to G. A. Hunger, Jr. (PECO Energy Company), dated October 2, 1996. In this letter, the USNRC provided PECO Energy Company (PECO Energy) the opportunity to comment on the USNRC's understanding of the design of the spent fuel pool, the safety significance of the design features, the cost of potential modifications to the spent fuel pool, or the existing protection from the design concerns expressed by the USNRC which may be provided by administrative controls or other means.

As discussed in your letter, the spent fuel pool coolant level at the PBAPS, Units 2 and 3 is currently monitored by a low-level switch in the skimmer surge tank. The fuel pool and skimmer surge tanks are connected by weirs that equalize the level. However, in order to enhance the monitoring of the spent fuel pool level, an additional low-level switch is being added to the spent fuel pool. This new switch will alarm locally (on the refuel floor) and provide a general spent fuel pool trouble alarm in the main Control Room.

This additional monitoring instrumentation, along with other associated monitoring instruments, will provide adequate indication of a potential problem with spent fuel pool cooling. PBAPS currently plans to install these switches by September 30, 1997. The need for a modification was under review by PECO Energy prior to USNRC notification and resulted from concerns associated with the adequacy of the spent fuel pool level instrumentation identified during the plant review of the PBAPS, Units 2 and 3 Updated Final Safety Analyses Report (UFSAR).

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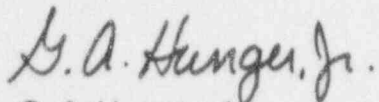
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If you have any questions, please contact us.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "G. A. Hunger, Jr.".

G. A. Hunger, Jr.

Director

Licensing Section

cc: H. J. Miller, Administrator, Region I, USNRC

W. L. Schmidt, USNRC Senior Resident Inspector, PBAPS