

NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Duquesne Light Company
Beaver Valley Power Station 1 & 2

Docket Nos. 50-334, 50-412
License Nos. DPR-66, NPF-73

As a result of reviews conducted by the NRC in August and December 1996 and subsequent assessment, violations of NRC requirements were identified. In accordance with the "General Statement of Policy and Procedure for NRC Enforcement Actions," NUREG-1600, the violations are listed below:

- A. Section 70.24(a) of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations, requires, in part, each licensee authorized to possess special nuclear material (SNM) in a quantity exceeding those identified, to maintain a radiation monitoring system in each area where SNM is handled, used or stored that will alarm if accidental criticality occurs. Furthermore, applicable emergency procedures must be maintained to ensure personnel are withdrawn to an area of safety when the alarm sounds.

Contrary to the above, as of February 1, 1997, the licensee had never installed a radiation monitoring system in the Beaver Valley Unit 1 new fuel storage areas capable of alarming should an accidental criticality occur. Furthermore, the licensee's initial exemptions from the requirements of 10 CFR 70.24(a) (contained as part of its original NRC Materials License for possessing SNM) expired when the Beaver Valley Unit 1 construction permit was converted to an operating license in 1976. At that time, the licensee failed to install a radiation monitoring system and implement appropriate emergency procedures, or renew its exemptions. Since then, new fuel storage areas have been used to handle, use and store new fuel assemblies on a regular basis prior to each unit refueling outage.

This is a Severity Level IV violation (Supplement I).

- B. 10 CFR 50, Appendix B, Criterion II, Quality Assurance Program, requires in part that the QA program shall provide control over activities affecting the quality of systems, structures, and components consistent with their importance to safety. Additionally, the program shall take into account the need for special skills to attain the required quality. The program shall be documented by written policies, procedures, or instructions and shall be carried out throughout plant life.

Contrary to the above, station procedures were inadequate to assure vendors met Qualified Suppliers List requirements prior to performing safety related work. As a result, on December 1-2, 1996, a vendor performed safety related leak injection repair services without satisfying applicable quality requirements.

This is a Severity Level IV violation (Supplement I).

Pursuant to the provisions of 10 CFR 2.201, Duquesne Light Company, is hereby required to submit a written statement or explanation to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Document Control Desk, Washington, DC 20555, with a copy to the Regional Administrator, Region I, and a copy to the NRC Resident Inspector, Beaver Valley Power Station, within 30 days of the date of the letter transmitting this Notice of Violation

(Notice). This reply should be clearly marked as a "Reply to a Notice of Violation" and should include for each violation: (1) the reason for the violation, or, if contested, the basis for disputing the violation; (2) the corrective steps that will be taken and the results achieved; (3) the corrective steps that will be taken to avoid further violations; and (4) the date when full compliance will be achieved.

Your response may reference or include previous docketed correspondence, if the correspondence adequately addresses the required response. If an adequate reply is not received within the time specified in this Notice, an Order or a Demand for Information may be issued as to why the license should not be modified, suspended, or revoked, or why such other action as may be proper should not be taken. Where good cause is shown, consideration will be given to extending the response time.

Because your response will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR), to the extent possible, it should not include any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information so that it can be placed in the PDR without redaction. If personal privacy or proprietary information is necessary to provide an acceptable response, then please provide a bracketed copy of your redacted copy of your response that deletes such information. If you request withholding of such material, you must specifically identify the portions of your response that you seek to have withheld and provide in detail the bases for your claim of withholding (e.g., explain why the disclosure of information will create an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy or provide the information required by 10 CFR 2.790(b) to support a request for withholding confidential commercial or financial information). If safeguards information is necessary to provide an acceptable response, please provide the level of protection described in 10 CFR 73.21.

Dated at King of Prussia
this 21th day of February 1997