



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

June 3, 1985

*W+E  
PP  
Phil. Elec*

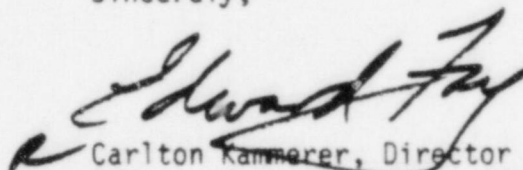
The Honorable Edward J. Markey, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Energy Conservation and Power  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed for your information is an announcement that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has cited the Philadelphia Electric Company for alleged violations of NRC requirements at the company's Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station in York County, and at the Limerick Generating Station near Pottstown, Pennsylvania. The staff proposes to fine the company \$75,000.

This announcement will be mailed to the news media today.

Sincerely,

  
Carlton Kammerer, Director  
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure:  
As stated

cc: Rep. Carlos Moorhead

IDENTICAL LETTER SENT TO:  
Sen. Simpson/cc: Sen. Hart  
Rep. Udall/cc: Rep. Lujan  
Sen. Heinz  
Sen. Specter  
Rep. Schulze  
Rep. Borski  
Rep. Kostmayer  
Rep. Walker  
Rep. Goodling



# **UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

**Office of Public Affairs  
Washington, D.C. 20555**

No. 85-78  
Tel. 301/492-7715

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
(Friday, May 31, 1985)

## **NRC STAFF CITES PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY; PROPOSES \$75,000 FINE**

The staff of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has cited the Philadelphia Electric Company for alleged violations of NRC requirements at the company's Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station in York County, and at the Limerick Generating Station near Pottstown, Pennsylvania. The staff proposes to fine the company \$75,000.

At Peach Bottom, the citations involve incidents, in February of this year, when contractor employees, replacing piping in the plant, were contaminated with radioactive material and received unplanned occupational radiation exposures. Although the exposures themselves were not in excess of NRC regulatory limits, a potential for such excessive exposures existed, and there were alleged violations of other NRC regulatory requirements for prevention of the unplanned exposures.

The violations included: alleged failure to have the radiation work permit include specific requirements for radiological exposure control; alleged failure to assure, on February 3 and 10, 1985, that seven workers were aware of radiation conditions in the area where they were to work; alleged failure to have a worker wear the respiratory protection (breathing filter mask) required by the radiological conditions existing in the place where he was working; alleged failure to inform workers who were wearing self-alarmed radiation measuring dosimeters of the radiation dose rate levels in a high radiation area in which they were to work; alleged failure to perform an evaluation of radiation hazards in a work area prior to performance of the work; alleged failure to properly sample the air being breathed by workers in a potentially contaminated area; and alleged failure to provide adequate personal radiation monitoring devices for measuring radiation exposures to the hands and eyes of workers who were working on equipment that was radioactive.

At Limerick, the citations involve five alleged violations of NRC requirements for the physical protection of the plant, also found by inspectors during February of this year. The details of the violations are classified as "Safeguards Information," and as such are exempt from public disclosure.

In a letter to the company, Dr. Thomas E. Murley, Regional Administrator of NRC Region I, said that the alleged violations, both at Peach Bottom and at Limerick, involved PECO's failure to exercise proper control of contractor work forces. The members of the guard force at Limerick, the piping repair workers at Peach Bottom, and the workers and their immediate supervisors who provided

on-the-job radiation protection coverage during the pipe repair activities at Peach Bottom, were employees of other companies under contract to PECO.

Dr. Murley said that while the alleged violations normally would have merited a \$50,000 fine for each site, the Peach Bottom fine was reduced to \$25,000, because of PECO's extensive corrective actions there, but was left at \$50,000 for Limerick, since the corrective actions taken by PECO were not comparably extensive.

The utility has 30 days to respond in writing to the Notices of Violation, either admitting or denying the violations; the reasons for the alleged violations, if admitted; corrective steps taken or to be taken and results achieved; steps to be taken to avoid further violations; and the date when full compliance will be achieved. The company also has 30 days to either pay the proposed fine or to request in writing that part or all of it be withdrawn, giving its reasons for any such request.

In another matter in the letter accompanying the proposed fine, Dr. Murley said the NRC also had looked into alleged falsification of guard training records by contractor employees that took place at Limerick in 1984. This was discussed with PECO on March 11, 1985. Dr. Murley gave PECO 30 days to submit to his office a report of the company's own investigation of the alleged falsification of guard training records; an explanation of whether these incidents occurred without PECO's knowledge, and if so, how; a determination of the causes of the falsification, including the responsible individuals; and a description of what PECO has done or plans to do to prevent a recurrence of such incidents.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has been informed of this proposed enforcement action.