

March 3, 1988

Docket Nos. 50-317
and 50-318

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Robert A. Capra, Director
Project Directorate I-1
Division of Reactor Projects I/II

FROM: Scott Alexander McNeil, Project Manager
Project Directorate I-1
Division of Reactor Projects I/II

SUBJECT: EXEMPTION AND TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION AMENDMENT REQUESTS
FOR REDUCTION OF THE EMERGENCY PLANNING ZONE AT CALVERT
CLIFFS (TAC'S 60175 & 60176)

Previously, we notified BG&E in the Harold Denton letter of February 14, 1986 that the NRC staff review of BG&E's applications for emergency planning zone (EPZ) reduction, dated November 18, 1985 and January 10, 1986, would be deferred until final publication of NUREG-0956, "Reassessment of the Technical Bases for Estimating Source Terms." Prior to the final publication of NUREG-0956, which occurred in July 1986, our staff determined that review of these requests could not proceed until completion of the NRC's study of severe accident issues which would be captured in NUREG-1150, "Reactor Risk Document."

Subsequently, in BG&E's February 25, 1988 meeting with Mr. V. Stello, Jr., Executive Director for Operations, and Dr. T. E. Murley, Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Mr. J. A. Tiernan, Vice President-Nuclear Energy, BG&E requested NRC deferral of our review of the EPZ reduction issue with its retention as an active application. This request was based upon manpower requirements currently needed for higher priority tasks necessary to upgrade BG&E's performance which could have been adversely impacted by an ongoing NRC review of these EPZ reduction applications.

At this meeting, Mr. Stello and Dr. Murley concurred in the deferral of this review as significant effort was still necessary to complete the NRC study of severe accident issues. Completion of NUREG-1150 is now scheduled for October 1988. In addition, BG&E was told that the NRC had no objections to keeping these EPZ reduction requests as active TAC's rather than withdrawing the requests and resubmitting them when the licensee desired reactivation of this review.

It is recommended that a letter be transmitted to Mr. J. A. Tiernan that reaffirms the NRC's agreement with BG&E to defer this review, yet retain it as an active request.

Scott Alexander McNeil, Project Manager
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