



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 12, 2000

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

**SUBJECT: SAFETY EVALUATION ADDRESSING THERMO-LAG RELATED AMPACITY DERATING ISSUES, PEACH BOTTOM ATOMIC POWER STATION, UNITS 2 AND 3, AND LIMERICK GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2 (TAC NOS. MA3404, MA3405, MA3872, AND MA3873)**

Dear Mr. Hutton:

By letters dated March 13, 1998, and March 12, 1999, PECO Energy Company submitted its responses concerning ampacity derating issues at the Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station, Units 2 and 3, and the Limerick Generating Station, Units 1 and 2, including responses to a request for additional information (RAI) dated November 14, 1997.

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff, with assistance from its contractor, Sandia National Laboratories (SNL), has completed its review of your submittals. The results of the review are documented in the enclosed safety evaluation with attached SNL Technical Letter Report (TLR), "A Final Technical Review of the PECO Ampacity Assessment Methodology and RAI Responses for Limerick and Peach Bottom," dated April 30, 1999, (Attachment 1 to Enclosure), and SNL TLR, "A Final Technical Evaluation of the PECO Conduit Ampacity Assessment Methodology for Limerick and Peach Bottom," dated October 19, 1999, (Attachment 2 to Enclosure).

On the basis of its review, the staff has concluded that the ampacity derating analysis results are acceptable and there are no significant safety hazards associated with the application of PECO Energy Company's ampacity derating methodology at Limerick and Peach Bottom. You should retain all documentation related to the resolution of the ampacity issues for future NRC audits or inspections.

USE FILE REENTER COPY

DFOI

J. Hutton

- 2 -

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at 301-415-1483.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Bartholomew C. Buckley, Sr. Project Manager, Section 2  
Project Directorate I  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-352, 50-353, 50-277, and 50-278

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

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J. Hutton

- 2 -

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at 301-415-1483.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Bartholomew C. Buckley in black ink.

Bartholomew C. Buckley, Sr. Project Manager, Section 2  
Project Directorate I  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-277, 50-278, 50-352, and 50-353,

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station,  
Units 2 and 3  
Limerick Generating Station,  
Units 1 and 2

cc:

J. W. Durham, Sr., Esquire  
Sr. V.P. & General Counsel  
PECO Energy Company  
2301 Market Street, S26-1  
Philadelphia, PA 19101

Chief-Division of Nuclear Safety  
PA Dept. of  
Environmental Resources  
P.O. Box 8469  
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8469

PECO Energy Company  
ATTN: Mr. J. Doering, Vice President  
Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station  
1848 Lay Road  
Delta, PA 17314

Board of Supervisors  
Peach Bottom Township  
R. D. #1  
Delta, PA 17314

PECO Energy Company  
ATTN: Regulatory Engineer, A4-5S  
Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station  
1848 Lay Road  
Delta, PA 17314

Public Service Commission of Maryland  
Engineering Division  
Chief Engineer  
6 St. Paul Centre  
Baltimore, MD 21202-6806

Resident Inspector  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station  
P.O. Box 399  
Delta, PA 17314

Mr. Richard McLean  
Power Plant and Environmental  
Review Division  
Department of Natural Resources  
B-3, Tawes State Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Regional Administrator, Region I  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
475 Allendale Road  
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Manager - Limerick Licensing, 62A-1  
PECO Energy Company  
965 Chesterbrook Boulevard  
Wayne, PA 19087-5691

Mr. Roland Fletcher  
Department of Environment  
201 West Preston Street  
Baltimore, MD 21201

Mr. James D. von Suskil, Vice President  
Limerick Generating Station  
P.O. Box A  
Sanatoga, PA 19464

A. F. Kirby, III  
External Operations - Nuclear  
Delmarva Power & Light Company  
P.O. Box 231  
Wilmington, DE 19899

Plant Manager  
Limerick Generating Station  
P.O. Box A  
Sanatoga, PA 19464

Chairman  
Board of Supervisors  
of Limerick Township  
646 West Ridge Pike  
Linfield, PA 19468

Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station,  
Units 2 and 3  
Limerick Generating Station,  
Units 1 and 2

Director - Site Support Services  
Limerick Generating Station  
P.O. Box A  
Sanatoga, PA 19464

Senior Resident Inspector  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Limerick Generating Station  
P.O. Box 596  
Pottstown, PA 19464

Manager - Experience Assessment  
Limerick Generating Station  
P.O. Box A  
Sanatoga, PA 19464

Library  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Region I  
475 Allendale Road  
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Senior Manager - Operations  
Limerick Generating Station  
P.O. Box A  
Sanatoga, PA 19464

Dr. Judith Johnsrud  
National Energy Committee  
Sierra Club  
433 Orlando Avenue  
State College, PA 16803

Director - Site Engineering  
Limerick Generating Station  
P.O. Box A  
Sanatoga, PA 19464

Manager-Peach Bottom Licensing  
PECO Energy Company  
Nuclear Group Headquarters  
Correspondence Control Desk  
P.O. Box No. 195  
Wayne, PA 19087-0195

Manager-Financial Control & Co-Owner  
Affairs  
Public Service Electric and Gas  
Company  
P.O. Box 236  
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038-0236

PECO Energy Company  
Plant Manager  
Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station  
1848 Lay Road  
Delta, PA 17314