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I-97-64

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June 9, 1997

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NRC STAFF TO MEET WITH BG&E TO DISCUSS
APPARENT VIOLATIONS AT CALVERT CLIFFS NUCLEAR PLANT

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will meet with officials of Baltimore Gas and Electric Company (BG&E) on Thursday, June 12, to discuss apparent violations at its Calvert Cliffs nuclear power plant in Lusby, Md. The predecisional enforcement conference, which begins at 10 a.m., will be held in the NRC's Regional Office, 475 Allendale Road in King of Prussia, Pa.

The apparent violations involve a series of problems that occurred as fuel was being handled during the most recent refueling outage at the plant, including the poor material condition of the handling equipment, failure to use engineering drawings during troubleshooting, failure to follow procedures and operating equipment contrary to the plant's license requirements.

Also to be discussed is BG&E's failure to control diving activities in the Unit 2 spent fuel pool. On April 3, the failure led to a diver moving from a comprehensively surveyed area at the south end of the pool to unsurveyed areas at the north end. Consequently, the diver sustained an unplanned exposure, though no exposure in excess of regulatory limits is believed to have occurred.

The decision to hold a predecisional enforcement conference does not mean that the NRC has determined a violation has occurred or that enforcement action will be taken. Rather, the purpose is to discuss apparent violations, their causes and safety significance; to provide the licensee an opportunity to point out any errors that may have been made in the NRC inspection report; and to enable the licensee to outline its proposed corrective actions.

No decision on the apparent violations will be made at this conference. That decision will be made by NRC officials at a later time.

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