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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NRC STAFF TO MEET WITH DUQUESNE LIGHT OFFICIALS  
TO DISCUSS APPARENT VIOLATIONS AT BEAVER VALLEY

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will meet with officials of Duquesne Light Company on Friday morning, June 13, to discuss apparent violations at the Beaver Valley Power Station in Shippingport, Pa. The predecisional enforcement conference, which is open to the public for observation only, will be held at 10 a.m. in the NRC's Region 1 office in King of Prussia, Pa.

Between March 16 and April 23, workers at Beaver Valley missed six tests that are required to be performed at specific intervals by the plant's technical specifications. Although the missed surveillance tests had minimal safety consequence, collectively they indicated weaknesses in the surveillance test program, particularly in the areas of procedural support, scheduling and coordination.

The decision to hold a predecisional enforcement conference does not mean that the NRC has determined that 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. Those decisions will be made by senior NRC officials at a later time.

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