

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Public Affairs, Region I
475 Allendale Road King of Prussia, PA 19406
Fax: 610/337-5241
Internet: dps@nrc.gov or nas@nrc.gov

I-99-9

January 28, 1999

Contact: Diane Screnci (610/337-5330)
Neil A. Sheehan (610/337-5331)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NRC, BG&E TO DISCUSS LICENSE RENEWAL INSPECTION

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will meet with officials of Baltimore Gas & Electric Company next week to discuss an upcoming license renewal inspection at the Calvert Cliffs nuclear plant in Lusby, Md.

The meeting, which is scheduled from 1 to 4 p.m. on February 1 and continues from 8 to 11:30 a.m. on February 2, will be open for public observation. It will be held in the public meeting room of the NRC Region I Office in King of Prussia, Pa.

In developing regulations for license renewal, the NRC required that the plant be maintained and operated according to the terms and conditions of its original license. This ensures an acceptable level of safety is maintained because the regulations have been modified to address unique age-related degradation.

On February 8, a nine-member NRC team will begin the first of three license renewal inspections at Calvert Cliffs. This "scoping and screening" inspection, will verify that the company's license renewal program is implemented consistent with the company's license renewal application and pertinent regulations. Subsequent inspections will verify that programs are in place to manage the material conditions of the systems, structures and components.

The inspection is expected to last a week. An inspection report will be issued about 45 days later. Members of the team will meet with the public following issuance of the report to discuss their findings and its relevance. The meeting will be announced well in advance.

Under NRC regulations, the original operating license for a nuclear power plant is issued for up to 40 years. The license may be renewed for up to an additional 20 years if NRC requirements are met. The current operating licenses for Calvert Cliffs will expire on July 31, 2014, for Unit 1 and on August 13, 2016, for

Unit 2. BG&E submitted its application for license renewal in April of last year.

#