November 28, 2000

Mr. Harold W. Keiser
President and Chief Nuclear Officer
Nuclear Business Unit
Public Service Electric & Gas Company
Post Office Box 236
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND INSPECTION PLAN - HOPE CREEK NUCLEAR PLANT

Dear Mr. Keiser:

On November 6, 2000, the NRC staff completed its Mid-Cycle plant performance assessment of the Hope Creek Nuclear Plant. The Mid-Cycle Review for Hope Creek involved the participation of the responsible technical divisions in Region I in evaluating performance indicators (PIs) and inspection results for the period of October 1, 1999 through September 30, 2000. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our assessment of your safety performance during this period and our plans for future inspections at your facility so that you will have an opportunity to prepare for these inspections and to inform us of any planned inspections which may conflict with your plant activities.

Plant performance for the most recent quarter was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC’s Action Matrix, based on all inspection findings being classified as having very low safety significance (Green) and all PIs indicating performance at a level requiring no additional NRC oversight (Green). Therefore, we plan to conduct only baseline inspections at your facility through September 30, 2001.

Enclosure 1 details the scheduled inspections that will occur through September 30, 2001. The inspection plan is provided to minimize the resource impact on your staff and to allow for scheduling conflicts and personnel availability to be resolved in advance of inspector arrival onsite. Routine resident inspections are not listed due to their ongoing and continuous nature. The last six months of the inspection plans are tentative and may be revised at the end-of-cycle review meeting.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC’s “Rules of Practice,” a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC’s document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/ADAMS/index.html (the Public Electronic Reading Room).
Mr. Harold W. Keiser

Hope Creek

If circumstances arise which cause us to change this inspection plan, we will contact you to discuss the change as soon as possible. Please contact me at (610) 337-5211 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Glenn W. Meyer, Chief
Projects Branch 3
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket No.  50-354
Licensee Nos. NPF-57

Enclosure: Hope Creek Inspection/Activity Plan

cc: w/enclosure
E. Simpson, Senior Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer
M. Bezilla, Vice President - Nuclear Operations
D. Garchow, Vice President - Technical Support
M. Trum, Vice President - Maintenance
T. O'Connor, Vice President - Plant Support
E. Salowitz, Director - Nuclear Business Support
G. Salamon, Manager - Licensing
A. F. Kirby, III, External Operations - Nuclear, Delmarva Power & Light Co.
J. McMahon, Director - QA/Nuclear Training/Emergency Preparedness
R. Kankus, Joint Owner Affairs
A. Tapert, Program Administrator
J. J. Keenan, Esquire
Consumer Advocate, Office of Consumer Advocate
W. Conklin, Public Safety Consultant, Lower Alloways Creek Township
M. Wetterhahn, Esquire
State of New Jersey
State of Delaware
Mr. Harold W. Keiser
Hope Creek

Distribution w/encl:
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R. Ennis, NRR
T. Frye, NRR

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY
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This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.
This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.