June 2, 2000

MEMORANDUM TO: James W. Clifford, Chief, Section 2
Project Directorate I
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Richard B. Ennis, Project Manager, Section 2 ***/RA/***
Project Directorate I
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION AND SALEM NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2, FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION, ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED IN AN UPCOMING CONFERENCE CALL (TAC NOS. MA8595, MA8600 AND MA8601)

The attached information was transmitted by facsimile on May 31, 2000, to Mr. E. H. Villar of Public Service Electric & Gas Company (PSE&G). This information was transmitted to facilitate an upcoming conference call in order to clarify the licensee's submittal dated March 17, 2000, which requested use of American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Code Case N-597 for Hope Creek Generating Station and Salem Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1 and 2. This memorandum and the attachment do not convey a formal request for information or represent an NRC staff position.

Docket Nos. 50-354, 50-272, 50-311

Attachment: Issues for Discussion in Upcoming Telephone Conference

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Issues for Discussion in Upcoming Telephone Conference
Related to PSE&G Letter LR-N000095, dated March 17, 2000
Analytical Evaluation of Wall Thinning Alternative to Requirements of ASME Section XI
Hope Creek Generating Station and Salem Nuclear Generating Stations, Units 1 and 2

The NRC views the use of ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code Case N-597 for the analytical evaluation of Class 1, 2 and 3 carbon and low-alloy steel piping items subjected to wall thinning as a result of flow accelerated or other corrosion phenomenon on a conditional basis.

Your submittal dated March 17, 2000 states that you intend to apply the Code Case N-597 analytical alternative to replacement, if necessary, for the 14" feed water elbows. The submittal further states that two of the feed water elbows are expected to reach minimum wall thickness during Cycle 12.

Please provide the following information:

1. Specify in what plant(s) this relief request will be implemented.

2. Identify the code class of the line in which the elbow, sought for relief, is located.

3. What is the current wall thickness of the measured elbows?

4. By what means have you determined that two of the elbows will reach minimum wall thickness during Cycle 12? Provide detailed information regarding the basis for determining wall thinning rates to support this prediction.

5. Are the inspection requirements for this elbow derived from NSAC-202L-R2?
   If yes, we request that you provide an implementation program to provide adequate controls pursuant to 10CRF 50, Appendix B for the ASME class 1, 2, or 3 components.