

June 14, 2000

Mr. Robert G. Byram  
Senior Vice President  
and Chief Nuclear Officer  
PP&L, Inc.  
2 North Ninth Street  
Allentown, PA 18101

SUBJECT: SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2 - COMPLETION OF REVIEW OF RESPONSE TO GENERIC LETTER 99-02, "LABORATORY TESTING OF NUCLEAR-GRADE ACTIVATED CHARCOAL" (TAC NOS. MA5853 AND MA5854)

Dear Mr. Byram:

On June 3, 1999, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued Generic Letter (GL) 99-02, "Laboratory Testing of Nuclear-Grade Activated Charcoal," to all holders of operating licenses for nuclear power reactors, except those who have permanently ceased operations and have certified that fuel has been permanently removed from the reactor vessel.

The purpose of the GL was to:

- (1) Alert addressees that the NRC has determined that testing nuclear-grade activated charcoal to standards other than American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) D3803-1989, "Standard Test Method for Nuclear-Grade Activated Carbon," does not provide assurance for complying with the current licensing basis as it relates to the dose limits of General Design Criterion (GDC) 19 of Appendix A to Part 50 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) and Subpart A of 10 CFR Part 100.
- (2) Request that all addressees determine whether their Technical Specifications (TS) reference ASTM D3803-1989 for charcoal filter laboratory testing. Addressees whose TS do not reference ASTM D3803-1989 should either amend their TS to reference ASTM D3803-1989 or propose an alternative test protocol and provide the information discussed in the requested actions.
- (3) Alert addressees to the staff's intent to exercise enforcement discretion under certain conditions.
- (4) Request that all addressees send the NRC written responses to this generic letter relating to implementation of the requested actions.

In GL 99-02, the NRC staff established the following four groups of plants:

- (1) plants in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with ASTM D3803-1989

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- (2) plants in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with a test protocol other than ASTM D3803-1989
- (3) plants not in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with ASTM D3803-1989
- (4) plants not in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with a test protocol other than ASTM D3803-1989

In response to GL 99-02, you provided a letter dated November 19, 1999, for the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Units 1 and 2. This submittal indicated that your facilities are Group 1 plants. The staff has reviewed your response and has concluded that all requested information has been provided; therefore, we consider GL 99-02 to be closed for your facilities. We thank you for your prompt and complete response.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (301) 415-1312.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Robert G. Schaaf, Project Manager, Section 1  
Project Directorate I  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-387 and 50-388

cc: See next page

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- (2) plants in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with a test protocol other than ASTM D3803-1989
- (3) plants not in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with ASTM D3803-1989
- (4) plants not in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with a test protocol other than ASTM D3803-1989

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Robert G. Schaaf, Project Manager, Section 1  
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