

Mr. Robert G. Byram  
Senior Vice President-Generation  
and Chief Nuclear Officer  
Pennsylvania Power and Light  
Company  
2 North Ninth Street  
Allentown, PA 18101

July 2, 1998

SUBJECT: CONFIRMATORY ORDER MODIFYING LICENSES, SUSQUEHANNA STEAM  
ELECTRIC STATION (SSES), UNITS 1 AND 2

Dear Mr. Byram:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Confirmatory Order Modifying Licenses (Order) for the Pennsylvania Power and Light Company's (the licensee) Susquehanna Steam Electric Station (SSES), Units 1 and 2. This Order confirms the licensee's commitment, as stated in the licensee's letters dated April 15, 1993; February 3 and December 22, 1994; August 2, 1995; February 4, 1997; and January 6 and May 4, 1998, to complete final implementation of Thermo-Lag 330-1 fire barrier corrective actions at SSES, Units 1 and 2, by completion of the April 2000 refueling outage for SSES, Unit 1. Overall work package closeout will be completed by the end of December 2000. This commitment was set out in your letter of consent dated June 3, 1998.

You should proceed with implementation of these corrective actions in accordance with your proposed schedule.

A copy of this order is being filed with the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,  
/s/D. Brinkman for  
Victor Nerses, Senior Project Manager  
Project Directorate I-2  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-387/50-388

Enclosure: Order

cc w/encl: See next page

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BBoger	AKugler	CAnderson, RGN-I
JZwolinski	MTschiltz	
RCapra	GHill(4)	

\*See previous concurrence

OFFICE	PDI-2/PM	PDI-2/LA	PDI-2/D	(A)D/DRPE*	OGC*
NAME	VNerses:rb	MO'Brien	RCapra	JZwolinski	RHoefling
DATE	7/2/98	7/2/98	7/2/98	06/24/98	07/02/98

OFFICE	(A)ADPR*	D/NRR*			
NAME	BBoger	SCollins			
DATE	06/25/98	06/29/98			

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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

July 2, 1998

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and Chief Nuclear Officer  
Pennsylvania Power and Light  
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Sincerely,

*for Donald S. Brickman*  
Victor Nerses, Senior Project Manager  
Project Directorate I-2  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-387/50-388

Enclosure: Order

cc w/encl: See next page

Mr. Robert G. Byram  
Pennsylvania Power & Light Company

Susquehanna Steam Electric Station,  
Units 1 & 2

cc:

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Chairman  
Board of Supervisors  
738 East Third Street  
Berwick, PA 18603

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**  
**NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

In the Matter of	)	
	)	
Pennsylvania Power & Light Company	)	Docket Nos. 50-387
	)	and 50-388
Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Units 1 & 2	)	

**CONFIRMATORY ORDER MODIFYING LICENSES**  
**EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY**

I.

Pennsylvania Power & Light Company, (PP&L or the Licensee) is the holder of Facility Operating Licenses Nos. NPF-17 and NPF-22, which authorize operation of Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Units 1 and 2, located in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania.

II.

The staff of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has been concerned that Thermo-Lag 330-1 fire barrier systems installed by licensees may not provide the level of fire endurance intended and that licensees that use Thermo-Lag 330-1 fire barriers may not be meeting regulatory requirements. During the 1992 to 1994 time frame, the NRC staff issued Generic Letter (GL) 92-08, "Thermo-Lag 330-1 Fire Barriers" and subsequent requests for additional information that requested licensees to submit plans and schedules for resolving the Thermo-Lag issue. The NRC staff has obtained and reviewed all licensees' corrective plans and implementation schedules. The staff is concerned that some licensees may not be making adequate progress toward resolving the plant-specific issues, and that some implementation schedules may be either too tenuous or too protracted. For example, several licensees informed

the NRC staff that their completion dates had slipped by 6 months to as much as 3 years. For plants that have completion action scheduled beyond 1997, the NRC staff has met with the licensees to discuss the progress of the licensees' corrective actions and the extent of licensee management attention regarding completion of Thermo-Lag corrective actions.

PP&L was one of the licensees with which the NRC staff held meetings. At these meetings, the NRC staff reviewed with PP&L the schedule of Thermo-Lag corrective actions described in the PP&L submittals to the NRC dated April 15, 1993; February 3 and December 22, 1994; August 2, 1995; February 4, 1997; and January 6 and May 4, 1998. Based on the information submitted by PP&L, the NRC staff has concluded that the schedules presented by PP&L are reasonable. This conclusion is based on the (1) amount of installed Thermo-Lag, (2) the complexity of the plant-specific fire barrier configurations and issues, and (3) the need to perform certain plant modifications during outages as opposed to those that can be performed while the plant is at power. In order to remove compensatory measures such as fire watches, it has been determined that resolution of the Thermo-Lag corrective actions by PP&L must be completed in accordance with current PP&L's schedules. By letter dated May 19, 1998, the NRC staff notified PP&L of its plan to incorporate PP&L's schedule commitment into a requirement by issuance of an Order and requested consent from the Licensee. By letter dated June 3, 1998, the Licensee provided its consent to issuance of a Confirmatory Order.

### III.

The Licensee's commitment as set forth in its letter of June 3, 1998, is acceptable and is necessary for the NRC to conclude that public health and safety are reasonably assured. To preclude any schedule slippage and to assure public health and safety, the NRC staff has

determined that the Licensee's commitment in its June 3, 1998, letter be confirmed by this Order. The Licensee has agreed to this action. Based on the above, and the Licensee's consent, this Order is immediately effective upon issuance.

IV.

Accordingly, pursuant to sections 103, 161b, 161i, 161o, 182, and 186 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, and the Commission's regulations in 10 CFR 2.202 and 10 CFR Part 50, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, effective immediately, that:

Pennsylvania Power & Light Company shall complete final implementation of Thermo-Lag 330-1 fire barrier corrective actions at Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Units 1 and 2, described in the Pennsylvania Power & Light Company's submittals to the NRC dated April 15, 1993; February 3 and December 22, 1994; August 2, 1995; February 4, 1997; and January 6 and May 4, 1998, by completion of the April 2000 refueling outage for SSES, Unit 1. Overall work package closeout will be completed by the end of December 2000.

The Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, may relax or rescind, in writing, any provisions of this Confirmatory Order upon a showing by the Licensee of good cause.

V.

Any person adversely affected by this Confirmatory Order, other than the Licensee, may request a hearing within 20 days of its issuance. Where good cause is shown, consideration will be given to extending the time to request a hearing. A request for extension of time must be made in writing to the Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555, and include a statement of good cause for the extension.

Any request for a hearing shall be submitted to the Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Attention: Chief, Rulemaking and Adjudications Staff, Washington, D.C. 20555. Copies of the hearing request shall also be sent to the Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D. C. 20555, to the Deputy Assistant General Counsel for Enforcement at the same address, to the Regional Administrator, NRC Region I, 475 Allendale Road, King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406-1415 and to the Licensee. If such a person requests a hearing, that person shall set forth with particularity the manner in which his/her interest is adversely affected by this Order and shall address criteria set forth in 10 CFR 2.714(d).

If a hearing is requested by a person whose interest is adversely affected, the Commission will issue an Order designating the time and place of any such hearing. If a hearing is held, the issue to be considered at such hearing shall be whether this Confirmatory Order should be sustained.

In the absence of any request for hearing, or written approval of an extension of time in which to request a hearing, the provisions specified in Section IV above shall be final 20 days from the date of this Order without further order or proceedings. If an extension of time for requesting a hearing has been approved, the provisions specified in Section IV shall be final when the extension expires if a hearing request has not been received. An answer or a request for hearing shall not stay the immediate effectiveness of this Order.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
Original signed by  
Samuel J. Collins, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
Samuel J. Collins

Dated at Rockville, Maryland  
this 2nd day of July 1998.

OFC	PM:PDI-2	LA:PDI-2	PD:PDI-2	(A)D/DRPE	OGC
NAME	VNerses:rb	MO'Brien	RCapra RGC	JZwolinski	RHoefling
DATE	6/23/98	6/23/98	6/24/98	6/24/98	6/24/98

OFC	(A)ADPR	D/NRR
NAME	BBoger	SCollins
DATE	6/25/98	6/24/98

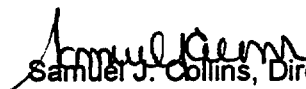
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FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

  
Samuel J. Collins, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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