

Mr. Harold W. Keiser  
Senior Vice President-Nuclear  
Pennsylvania Power and Light  
Company  
2 North Ninth Street  
Allentown, Pennsylvania 18101

Dear Mr. Keiser:

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF CONSIDERATION OF ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT TO FACILITY  
OPERATING LICENSE, PROPOSED NO SIGNIFICANT HAZARDS CONSIDERATION  
DETERMINATION, AND OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING, SUSQUEHANNA STEAM  
ELECTRIC STATION, UNIT 2 (TAC NO. M85021)

The Commission has requested the Office of the Federal Register to  
publish the enclosed "Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment to  
Facility Operating License, Proposed No Significant Hazards Consideration  
Determination, and Opportunity for Hearing." This notice relates to your  
application for amendment dated November 30, 1992, which would revise the  
Technical Specifications to authorize operation of the Reactor Water Cleanup  
(RWCU) System in the current fuel cycle with the non-regenerative heat  
exchanger discharge high temperature channel substituting for the inoperable  
'B' RWCU high flow isolation trip channel.

Sincerely,

Original signed by  
Richard J. Clark

Richard J. Clark, Senior Project Manager  
Project Directorate I-2  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Enclosure:  
Notice

cc w/enclosure:  
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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

December 9, 1992

Docket No. 50-388

Mr. Harold W. Keiser  
Senior Vice President-Nuclear  
Pennsylvania Power and Light  
Company  
2 North Ninth Street  
Allentown, Pennsylvania 18101

Dear Mr. Keiser:

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF CONSIDERATION OF ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE, PROPOSED NO SIGNIFICANT HAZARDS CONSIDERATION DETERMINATION, AND OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING, SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNIT 2 (TAC NO. M85021)

The Commission has requested the Office of the Federal Register to publish the enclosed "Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating License, Proposed No Significant Hazards Consideration Determination, and Opportunity for Hearing." This notice relates to your application for amendment dated November 30, 1992, which would revise the Technical Specifications to authorize operation of the Reactor Water Cleanup (RWCU) System in the current fuel cycle with the non-regenerative heat exchanger discharge high temperature channel substituting for the inoperable 'B' RWCU high flow isolation trip channel.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard J. Clark".

Richard J. Clark, Senior Project Manager  
Project Directorate I-2  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:  
Notice

cc w/enclosure:  
See next page

Mr. Harold W. Keiser  
Pennsylvania Power & Light Company

Susquehanna Steam Electric Station,  
Units 1 & 2

cc:

Jay Silberg, Esq.  
Shaw, Pittman, Potts & Trowbridge  
2300 N Street N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20037

Regional Administrator, Region I  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
475 Allendale Road  
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

Bryan A. Snapp, Esq.  
Assistant Corporate Counsel  
Pennsylvania Power & Light Company  
2 North Ninth Street  
Allentown, Pennsylvania 18101

Mr. Harold G. Stanley  
Superintendent of Plant  
Susquehanna Steam Electric Station  
Pennsylvania Power and Light Company  
2 North Ninth Street  
Allentown, Pennsylvania 18101

Mr. J. M. Kenny  
Licensing Group Supervisor  
Pennsylvania Power & Light Company  
2 North Ninth Street  
Allentown, Pennsylvania 18101

Mr. Herbert D. Woodeshick  
Special Office of the President  
Pennsylvania Power and Light Company  
Rural Route 1, Box 1797  
Berwick, Pennsylvania 18603

Mr. Scott Barber  
Senior Resident Inspector  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
P.O. Box 35  
Berwick, Pennsylvania 18603-0035

Mr. Robert G. Byram  
Vice President-Nuclear Operations  
Pennsylvania Power and Light Company  
2 North Ninth Street  
Allentown, Pennsylvania 18101

Mr. Thomas M. Gerusky, Director  
Bureau of Radiation Protection  
Resources  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
P. O. Box 2063  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Mr. Jesse C. Tilton, III  
Allegheny Elec. Cooperative, Inc.  
212 Locust Street  
P.O. Box 1266  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17108-1266

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONPENNSYLVANIA POWER AND LIGHT COMPANYALLEGHENY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.DOCKET NO. 50-388NOTICE OF CONSIDERATION OF ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT TO  
FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE, PROPOSED NO SIGNIFICANT HAZARDS  
CONSIDERATION DETERMINATION, AND OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. NPF-22 issued to Pennsylvania Power and Light Company and Allegheny Electric Cooperative, Inc. (the licensees) for operation of the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station (SSES), Unit 2, located in Salem Township, Pennsylvania.

The amendment would revise the Technical Specifications (TSs) to authorize operation of the Reactor Water Cleanup (RWCU) system in the current fuel cycle (Cycle 6) with the RWCU system non-regenerative heat exchanger discharge high temperature channel substituting for the inoperable 'B' RWCU High Flow isolation trip channel.

Before issuance of the proposed license amendment, the Commission will have made findings required by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act) and the Commission's regulations.

The Commission has made a proposed determination that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration. Under the Commission's regulations in 10 CFR 50.92, this means that operation of the facility in accordance with the proposed amendment would not (1) involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously

evaluated; or (2) create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated; or (3) involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety. As required by 10 CFR 50.91(a), the licensee has provided its analysis of the issue of no significant hazards consideration, which is presented below:

#### NO SIGNIFICANT HAZARDS CONSIDERATION

1. This request does not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated. The RWCU piping is carbon steel and is therefore resistant to IGSCC. For one operating cycle, the probability of a RWCU line break coincident with a failure to isolate the RWCU containment penetration in the section of piping which depends on it for diversity has been determined to be very low ( $1.1 \text{ E}-6$ ). For the balance of the RWCU piping, operation without the inoperable RWCU high flow trip channel does not increase the probability of containment isolation malfunction as analyzed in the Susquehanna IPE [Individual Plant Examination]. With regard to consequences, other redundant and diverse means of break detection are available, and have been determined to be adequate to cover the range of potential break scenarios evaluated in the FSAR [Final Safety Analysis Report]. For the section of RWCU piping that is dependent on high flow for diversity, the combined protection of the OPERABLE 'A' channel, the compensatory actions, and the Level 2 isolation will ensure that the consequences are bounded by previous FSAR evaluations. A specific evaluation concluded that radiological consequences for RWCU pipe breaks outside of containment are within the bounds of the FSAR analysis for Main Steamline Breaks outside of containment.
2. This request does not create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any previously evaluated. Inoperability of an isolation channel can only affect the probability or consequences of analyzed events (a leak/break with subsequent failure to isolate). It cannot create a new event.
3. The proposed change does not involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety. For the reasons described in 1 above, the 'B' high flow trip channel can be inoperable for one cycle of operation. Adequate diversity to operate the Susquehanna units has been determined to exist in the remaining OPERABLE trip channels and those channels have been determined to cover the complete range of analyzed break scenarios required. The exception is the section of piping which depends on the High Flow function for diversity. The probability of a line break of this piping coincident with a failure to isolate has been found to be sufficiently low for one cycle.

Given this low probability and the one for one replacement of the inoperable high flow channel with the non-regenerative heat exchanger discharge high temperature channel which effectively provides the same leak detection capabilities, an acceptable level of RWCU isolation reliability continues to exist, and a significant reduction in safety margin will not occur.

The NRC staff has reviewed the licensee's analysis and, based on this review, it appears that the three standards of 10 CFR 50.92(c) are satisfied. Therefore, the NRC staff proposes to determine that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration.

The Commission is seeking public comments on this proposed determination. Any comments received within thirty (30) days after the date of publication of this notice will be considered in making any final determination. The Commission will not normally make a final determination unless it receives a request for a hearing.

Written comments may be submitted by mail to the Rules and Directives Review Branch, Division of Freedom of Information and Publications Services, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, and should cite the publication date and page number of this FEDERAL REGISTER notice. Written comments may also be delivered to Room P-223, Phillips Building, 7920 Norfolk Avenue, Bethesda, Maryland, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Federal workdays. Copies of written comments received may be examined at the NRC Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC 20555. The filing of requests for hearing and petitions for leave to intervene is discussed below.

By January 14, 1993 , the licensee may file a request for a hearing with respect to issuance of the amendment to the subject facility operating license and any person whose interest may be affected by this proceeding and

who wishes to participate as a party in the proceeding must file a written request for a hearing and a petition for leave to intervene. Requests for a hearing and a petition for leave to intervene shall be filed in accordance with the Commission's "Rules of Practice for Domestic Licensing Proceedings" in 10 CFR Part 2. Interested persons should consult a current copy of 10 CFR 2.714 which is available at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC 20555 and at the local public document room located at Osterhout Free Library, Reference Department, 71 South Franklin Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania 18701. If a request for a hearing or petition for leave to intervene is filed by the above date, the Commission or an Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, designated by the Commission or by the Chairman of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, will rule on the request and/or petition; and the Secretary or the designated Atomic Safety and Licensing Board will issue a notice of hearing or an appropriate order.

As required by 10 CFR 2.714, a petition for leave to intervene shall set forth with particularity the interest of the petitioner in the proceeding, and how that interest may be affected by the results of the proceeding. The petition should specifically explain the reasons why intervention should be permitted with particular reference to the following factors: (1) the nature of the petitioner's right under the Act to be made party to the proceeding; (2) the nature and extent of the petitioner's property, financial, or other interest in the proceeding; and (3) the possible effect of any order which may be entered in the proceeding on the petitioner's interest. The petition should also identify the specific aspect(s) of the subject matter of the

proceeding as to which petitioner wishes to intervene. Any person who has filed a petition for leave to intervene or who has been admitted as a party may amend the petition without requesting leave of the Board up to fifteen (15) days prior to the first prehearing conference scheduled in the proceeding, but such an amended petition must satisfy the specificity requirements described above.

Not later than fifteen (15) days prior to the first prehearing conference scheduled in the proceeding, a petitioner shall file a supplement to the petition to intervene which must include a list of the contentions which are sought to be litigated in the matter. Each contention must consist of a specific statement of the issue of law or fact to be raised or controverted. In addition, the petitioner shall provide a brief explanation of the bases of the contention and a concise statement of the alleged facts or expert opinion which support the contention and on which the petitioner intends to rely in proving the contention at the hearing. The petitioner must also provide references to those specific sources and documents of which the petitioner is aware and on which the petitioner intends to rely to establish those facts or expert opinion. Petitioner must provide sufficient information to show that a genuine dispute exists with the applicant on a material issue of law or fact. Contentions shall be limited to matters within the scope of the amendment under consideration. The contention must be one which, if proven, would entitle the petitioner to relief. A petitioner who fails to file such a supplement which satisfies these requirements with respect to at least one contention will not be permitted to participate as a party.



Those permitted to intervene become parties to the proceeding, subject to any limitations in the order granting leave to intervene, and have the opportunity to participate fully in the conduct of the hearing, including the opportunity to present evidence and cross-examine witnesses.

If a hearing is requested, the Commission will make a final determination on the issue of no significant hazards consideration. The final determination will serve to decide when the hearing is held.

If the final determination is that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration, the Commission may issue the amendment and make it immediately effective, notwithstanding the request for a hearing. Any hearing held would take place after issuance of the amendment.

If the final determination is that the amendment request involves a significant hazards consideration, any hearing held would take place before the issuance of any amendment.

Normally, the Commission will not issue the amendment until the expiration of the 30-day notice period. However, should circumstances change during the notice period such that failure to act in a timely way would result, for example, in derating or shutdown of the facility, the Commission may issue the license amendment before the expiration of the 30-day notice period, provided that its final determination is that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration. The final determination will consider all public and State comments received. Should the Commission take this action, it will publish in the FEDERAL REGISTER a notice of issuance and provide for opportunity for a hearing after issuance. The Commission expects that the need to take this action will occur very infrequently.

A request for a hearing or a petition for leave to intervene must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, Attention: Docketing and Services Branch, or may be delivered to the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC 20555, by the above date. Where petitions are filed during the last ten (10) days of the notice period, it is requested that the petitioner promptly so inform the Commission by a toll-free telephone call to Western Union at 1-(800) 325-6000 (in Missouri 1-(800) 342-6700). The Western Union operator should be given Datagram Identification Number N1023 and the following message addressed to Charles L. Miller, Director, Project Directorate I-2, Division of Reactor Projects - I/II: petitioner's name and telephone number, date petition was mailed, plant name, and publication date and page number of this FEDERAL REGISTER notice. A copy of the petition should also be sent to the Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, and to Shaw, Pittman, Potts and Trowbridge, 2300 N Street NW., Washington, D.C. 20037, attorney for the licensee.

Nontimely filings of petitions for leave to intervene, amended petitions, supplemental petitions and/or requests for hearing will not be entertained absent a determination by the Commission, the presiding officer or the presiding Atomic Safety and Licensing Board that the petition and/or request should be granted based upon a balancing of the factors specified in 10 CFR 2.714(a)(1)(i)-(v) and 2.714(d).

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated November 30, 1992, which is available for public inspection at

the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC 20555 and at the local public document room located at Osterhout Free Library, Reference Department, 71 South Franklin Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania 18701.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 9<sup>th</sup> day of December 1992.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

*Charles L. Miller*

Charles L. Miller, Director  
Project Directorate I-2  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation