

April 10, 1998

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

SUBJECT: SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2 (TAC NOS.  
MA0844 AND 0845)

Dear Mr. Byram:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 175 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-14 and Amendment No. 147 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-22 for the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station (SSES), Units 1 and 2. These amendments consist of changes to the Technical Specifications (TSs) in response to your application dated January 26, 1998.

These amendments would (1) modify the requirement to hold an SSES Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) license in Section 6.3.1 for the Manager-Nuclear Operations (MNO), (2) replace the position of MNO with Operations Supervisor-Nuclear in the Section 6.2.2g requirement to hold an SSES SRO license and (3) renumber existing TS Section 6.3.1 to include 6.3.1.1, 6.3.1.2, and 6.3.1.3.

A copy of our safety evaluation is also enclosed. Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's Biweekly Federal Register Notice.

Sincerely,

/s/

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

- Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. 175 to License No. NPF-14
- 2. Amendment No. 147 to License No. NPF-22
- 3. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

DISTRIBUTION

Docket File	JStolz R Capra	GHill(4)	CAAnderson, RGN-I
PUBLIC	MO'Brien	REckenrode	THarris (E-Mail SE)
PDI-2 Reading	VNerses	WBeckner	
JZwolinski	OGC sll for 3/18/98	ACRS	*See previous concurrence

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DATE	4/18/98	4/16/98	03/20/98	03/27/98	4/8/98

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OFFICE	PDI-2/PM	PDI-2/LA	HHFB*	OGC*	PDI-2/D E
NAME	VNerses:mw	MO'Brien	REckenrode	MYoung	JStolz RCapra
DATE	4/18/98	4/16/98	03/20/98	03/27/98	4/8/98

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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

April 10, 1998

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and Chief Nuclear Officer  
Pennsylvania Power and Light Company  
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A copy of our safety evaluation is also enclosed. Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's Biweekly Federal Register Notice.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Victor Nerses".

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

Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. 175 to  
License No. NPF-14  
2. Amendment No. 147 to  
License No. NPF-22  
3. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

**Mr. Robert G. Byram  
Pennsylvania Power & Light Company**

**Susquehanna Steam Electric Station,  
Units 1 & 2**

**cc:**

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

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



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

PENNSYLVANIA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

ALLEGHENY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

DOCKET NO. 50-387

SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNIT 1

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 175  
License No. NPF-14

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission or the NRC) having found that:
  - A. The application for the amendment filed by the Pennsylvania Power & Light Company, dated January 26, 1998, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
  - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the regulations of the Commission;
  - C. There is reasonable assurance: (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
  - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
  - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.

2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment and paragraph 2.C.(2) of the Facility Operating License No. NPF-14 is hereby amended to read as follows:

(2) Technical Specifications and Environmental Protection Plan

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 175 and the Environmental Protection Plan contained in Appendix B, are hereby incorporated in the license. PP&L shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications and the Environmental Protection Plan.

3. This license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance and is to be implemented within 30 days after its date of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Robert A. Capra, Director  
Project Directorate I-2  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment: Changes to the Technical  
Specifications

Date of Issuance: April 10, 1998

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 175

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-14

DOCKET NO. 50-387

Replace the following pages of the Appendix A Technical Specifications with enclosed pages. The revised pages are identified by Amendment number and contain vertical lines indicating the area of change.

REMOVE

INSERT

6-2

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6-7a

## **ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROLS**

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### **UNIT STAFF (Continued)**

- c. A health physics technician\* shall be onsite when fuel is in the reactor.
- d. All CORE ALTERATIONS shall be observed and directly supervised by either a licensed Senior Reactor Operator or Senior Reactor Operator Limited to Fuel Handling who has no other concurrent responsibilities during this operation.
- e. A site Fire Brigade of at least 5 members shall be maintained onsite at all times\*. The Fire Brigade shall not include the Shift Supervisor and the 2 other members of the minimum shift crew necessary for safe shutdown of the unit and any personnel required for other essential functions during a fire emergency.
- f. Administrative procedures shall be developed and implemented to limit the working hours of unit staff who perform safety-related functions; e.g., senior reactor operators, reactor operators, health physicists, auxiliary operators, and key maintenance personnel.

Adequate shift coverage shall be maintained without routine heavy use of overtime. However, in the event that unforeseen problems require substantial amounts of overtime to be used, or during extended periods of shutdown for refueling, major maintenance or major plant modifications, on a temporary basis, the following guidelines shall be followed:

- 1. A individual should not be permitted to work more than 16 hours straight, excluding shift turnover time.
- 2. An individual should not be permitted to work more than 16 hours in any 24-hour period, nor more than 24 hours in any 48-hour period, nor more than 72 hours in any seven day period, all excluding shift turnover time.
- 3. A break of at least eight hours should be allowed between work periods, including shift turnover time.
- 4. Except during extended shutdown periods, the use of overtime should be considered on an individual basis and not for the entire staff on a shift.

Any deviation from the above guidelines shall be authorized by the Superintendent of Plant-Susquehanna or his deputy, or higher levels of management, in accordance with established procedures and with documentation of the basis for granting the deviation. Controls shall be included in the procedures such that individual overtime shall be reviewed monthly by the Superintendent of Plant-Susquehanna or his designee to assure that excessive hours have not been assigned. Routine deviation from the above guidelines is not authorized.

- g. The Operations Supervisor-Nuclear shall hold a Senior Reactor Operator license.

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\* The health physics technician and Fire Brigade composition may be less than the minimum requirements for a period of time not to exceed 2 hours in order to accommodate unexpected absence provided immediate action is taken to fill the required positions.



## **ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROLS**

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### **6.2.3 NUCLEAR SAFETY ASSESSMENT GROUP (NSAG)**

#### **FUNCTION**

6.2.3.1 The NSAG shall function to examine unit operating characteristics, NRC issuances, industry advisories, Licensee Event Reports, and other sources of plant design and operating experience information, including plants of similar design, which may indicate areas for improving plant safety.

#### **COMPOSITION**

6.2.3.2 The NSAG shall be composed of at least five dedicated, full-time engineers with at least three located onsite, each with a bachelor's degree in engineering or related science and at least two years professional level experience in his field, at least one year of which experience shall be in the nuclear field.

#### **RESPONSIBILITIES**

6.2.3.3 The NSAG shall be responsible for maintaining surveillance of unit activities to provide independent verification\* that these activities are performed correctly and that human errors are reduced as much as practical.

#### **AUTHORITY**

6.2.3.4 The NSAG shall make detailed recommendations for revised procedures, equipment modifications, maintenance activities, operations activities, or other means of improving unit safety to the Senior Vice President-Nuclear.

### **6.2.4 SHIFT TECHNICAL ADVISOR**

6.2.4.1 The Shift Technical Advisor shall provide technical support to the Shift Supervisor in the areas of thermal hydraulics, reactor engineering, and plant analysis with regard to the safe operation of the unit.

## **6.3 UNIT STAFF QUALIFICATIONS**

6.3.1 Each member of the unit staff shall meet or exceed the minimum qualifications of ANSI N18.1-1971 for comparable positions and the supplemental requirements specified in Sections A and C of Enclosure 1 of the March 28, 1980 NRC letter to all licensees, except for:

1. The Supervisor-Health Physics, who shall meet or exceed the qualifications of Regulatory Guide 1.8, September 1975,
2. The Shift Technical Advisor, who shall meet or exceed the qualifications referred to in Section 2.2.1 of Enclosure 1 of the October 30, 1979 NRC letter to all operating nuclear plants, and

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\* Not responsible for sign-off function.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROLS**

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### **UNIT STAFF QUALIFICATIONS (Continued)**

3. The Manager-Nuclear Operations, who shall meet one of the following:
  1. Hold a Senior Reactor Operator license, or
  2. Have held a Senior Reactor Operator license for Susquehanna SES or a similar unit (BWR), or
  3. Have been certified to have equivalent senior operator knowledge.

### **6.4 TRAINING**

- 6.4.1 A retraining and replacement training program for the unit staff shall be maintained under the direction of the Manager - Nuclear Training, and shall meet or exceed the requirements and recommendations of Section 5.5 of ANSI N18.1-1971 except that the licensed operator initial training and requalification programs shall meet or exceed the requirements of 10 CFR 55 and utilize the guidance contained in Regulatory Guide 1.8 Rev. 2.



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

**PENNSYLVANIA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY**

**ALLEGHENY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.**

**DOCKET NO. 50-388**

**SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNIT 2**

**AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE**

**Amendment No. 147  
License No. NPF-22**

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission or the NRC) having found that:
  - A. The application for the amendment filed by the Pennsylvania Power & Light Company, dated January 26, 1998, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
  - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the regulations of the Commission;
  - C. There is reasonable assurance: (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
  - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
  - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.

2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment and paragraph 2.C.(2) of the Facility Operating License No. NPF-22 is hereby amended to read as follows:

(2) Technical Specifications and Environmental Protection Plan

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No.147 and the Environmental Protection Plan contained in Appendix B, are hereby incorporated in the license. PP&L shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications and the Environmental Protection Plan.

3. This license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance and is to be implemented within 30 days after its date of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Robert A. Capra, Director  
Project Directorate I-2  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment: Changes to the Technical  
Specifications

Date of Issuance: April 10, 1998

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 147

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-22

DOCKET NO. 50-388

Replace the following pages of the Appendix A Technical Specifications with enclosed pages. The revised pages are identified by Amendment number and contain vertical lines indicating the area of change.

REMOVE

INSERT

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6-7a

## **ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROLS**

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### **UNIT STAFF (Continued)**

- c. A health physics technician\* shall be onsite when fuel is in the reactor.
- d. All CORE ALTERATIONS shall be observed and directly supervised by either a licensed Senior Reactor Operator or Senior Reactor Operator Limited to Fuel Handling who has no other concurrent responsibilities during this operation.
- e. A site Fire Brigade of at least five members shall be maintained onsite at all times\*. The Fire Brigade shall not include the Shift Supervisor and the two other members of the minimum shift crew necessary for safe shutdown of the unit and any personnel required for other essential functions during a fire emergency.
- f. Administrative procedures shall be developed and implemented to limit the working hours of unit staff who perform safety-related functions; e.g., senior reactor operators, reactor operators, health physicists, auxiliary operators, and key maintenance personnel.

Adequate shift coverage shall be maintained without routine heavy use of overtime. However, in the event that unforeseen problems require substantial amounts of overtime to be used, or during extended periods of shutdown for refueling, major maintenance or major plant modifications, on a temporary basis, the following guidelines shall be followed:

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- g. The Operations Supervisor-Nuclear shall hold a Senior Reactor Operator License.

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## **ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROLS**

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## **ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROLS**

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### **UNIT STAFF QUALIFICATIONS (Continued)**

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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION  
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO.175 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-14  
AMENDMENT NO.147 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-22  
PENNSYLVANIA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY  
ALLEGHENY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.  
SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2  
DOCKET NOS. 50-387 AND 388

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated January 26, 1998, the Pennsylvania Power and Light Company (PP&L) submitted a request to modify Technical Specifications (TS) Section 6.2.2g and Section 6.3.1 for Susquehanna Steam Electric Station (SSES). The proposed change would (1) modify the requirement to hold an SSES Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) license in Section 6.3.1 for the Manager-Nuclear Operations (MNO), (2) replace the position of MNO with Operations Supervisor-Nuclear (OSN) in the Section 6.2.2g, requirement to hold an SSES SRO license and (3) renumber existing TS Section 6.3.1 to include 6.3.1.1, 6.3.1.2, and 6.3.1.3.

2.0 EVALUATION

The SSES MNO is currently required to hold an SRO license. In their submittal dated January 26, 1998, PP&L proposed changes to the SSES, Units 1 and 2 TS modifying this requirement. The proposed modification would require an individual who serves as the MNO to either hold an SSES SRO license, have held an SRO license at another boiling-water reactor (BWR) or have been certified to have equivalent senior operator knowledge. If the MNO does not hold an SSES SRO license but meets the remaining MNO qualifications described in ANSI N18.1-1971, "Selection and Training of Nuclear Power Plant Personnel," then an individual serving as the OSN and reporting to the MNO will be required to hold an SSES SRO license. PP&L will require the individual serving as OSN meet the qualification requirements described in Section 4.2.2 of ANSI N18.1-1971.

It is required by 10 CFR 50.54(1) that the licensee "designate individuals to be responsible for directing the licensed activities of licensed operators. These individuals shall be licensed as senior operators..." At SSES, TS 6.2.2.g, as modified, will make the OSN, who holds an SRO license, the designated individual to be responsible for directing the licensed activities of licensed operators. In addition, TSs 6.3 and 6.2.2 reflect the licensee's commitment to ANSI N18.1-1971 for SSES. ANSI N18.1-1971 requires the MNO to hold, at time of appointment to the active position, an SRO license. This standard is intended to ensure that the MNO has the necessary and relevant operational experience and knowledge for the particular reactor technology in question. The staff finds that an individual who holds or has held an SRO license at a BWR has sufficient and relevant operational experience and knowledge to fill the position of MNO at another BWR.

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The staff concludes that the specification that either the MNO or OSN hold an SSES SRO license, is consistent with the requirements of 10 CFR 50.54(1) and ensures that a licensed off-shift senior operator is directing the licensed activities of the licensed operators. Because TS 6.2.2 and 6.3 require the OSN to be ANSI N18.1-1971 qualified to hold an SRO license (when the MNO does not hold a valid SSES SRO license) the proposed changes ensure there is site-specific, detailed and relevant technical and systems knowledge in a senior operator management position. Therefore, the proposed changes to TS 6.2.2 and 6.3.1 are acceptable.

### **3.0 STAFF CONCLUSION**

The staff concludes that the proposed modifications and additions to the SSES TS modifying the requirements for the MNO required to hold a valid SSES SRO license is consistent with and meets the relevant review criteria and is, therefore, acceptable.

### **4.0 STATE CONSULTATION**

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the Pennsylvania State official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendments. The State official had no comments.

### **5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION**

This amendment changes recordkeeping, reporting, or administrative procedures or requirements. Accordingly, the amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(10). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b) no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of this amendment.

### **6.0 CONCLUSION**

The Commission has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendments will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributor: V. Nerses

Date: April 10, 1998