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May 21, 2001

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

Subject: Saxton Nuclear Experimental Corporation (SNEC)
Operating License No. DPR-4
Docket No. 50-146
2000 Annual Report

Gentlemen,

The purpose of this letter is to submit, in accordance with Section 3.8.2 of the Saxton Nuclear Experimental Corporation (SNEC) Technical Specifications Amendment 17, a written report covering the status of the Saxton Nuclear Experimental Corporation (SNEC) Facility.

The report is for the period beginning January 1, 2000 through December 31, 2000.

Please contact Art Paynter (Radiation Safety Officer) at (814) 635-4384 if you have any questions concerning this submittal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. A. Kuehn", written in a cursive style.

G. A. Kuehn
Vice President SNEC

AFP
Enclosure

cc: NRC Project Manager NRR
NRC Project Scientist, Region 1

A001

SAXTON NUCLEAR EXPERIMENTAL CORPORATION

2000

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE

SAXTON NUCLEAR EXPERIMENTAL CORPORATION FACILITY

January 1, 2000 - December 31, 2000

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During the report period January 1, 2000 through December 31, 2000, various activities were conducted at the Saxton Nuclear Experimental Corporation (SNEC) Facility to prepare for Final Status Survey (FSS) and license termination. SNEC Facility Radiological Controls personnel continued to monitor radiological conditions at the site to assure protection of the health and safety of the general public and site personnel.

This report reviews those activities as required by the Technical Specifications Section 3.8.2 and includes:

- A. Information relating to changes in those management and supervisory positions designated in the Technical Specifications Section 3.1 (Organization and Responsibilities) as being responsible for decommissioning the facility.
- B. A summary of decommissioning, design, and maintenance changes made to the deactivated facility.
- C. Results of surveys and monitoring performed in accordance with Technical Specifications Section 3.6.2.1 (Radioactive Effluent Controls Program) and 3.6.2.2 (Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program).
- D. A review of the performance of access control and surveillance measures.

ANNUAL REPORT IN COMPLIANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 3.8.2 OF THE SNEC
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

JANUARY 1, 2000 - DECEMBER 31, 2000

This report was prepared in accordance with Section 3.8.2 of the Saxton Nuclear Experimental Corporation (SNEC) Technical Specifications. The reporting period covers January 1, 2000 through December 31, 2000. Each section presented corresponds to the appropriate requirements of the Technical Specifications.

- A. Section 3.8.2.1 - The following is information relating to changes in those management and supervisory positions designated in Section 3.1 of the Technical Specifications:

The GPU Nuclear Cognizant Officer for the SNEC Facility was changed as a result of corporate reorganization following the sale of the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station to AmerGen.

One incumbent Radiological Controls Technician was promoted to the position of GRCS to support decommissioning and final status survey activities.

- B. Section 3.8.2.2 - The following is a summary of decommissioning, design, and maintenance changes made to the deactivated facility:

1. Containment Vessel (CV) Shell

- Removed miscellaneous steel attachments, ladders and steel lighting supports from the upper dome.
- Mechanically stripped all interior dome paint, utilizing a wall-walking device designed and operated by Pentek, Inc.
- Installed cover plates on the inside of the shell and removed the outer emergency escape hatch tube.
- Installed a steel door, relocated the personnel hatch intrusion alarms and removed the outer personnel hatch tube.

2. Containment Vessel / Decommissioning Support Building (CV/DSB) Ventilation

- Designed, fabricated and installed a duct work support structure to relocate the CV/DSB Ventilation unit and monitoring shed away from the CV shield wall/pipe tunnel excavation areas.
- Moved the CV ventilation system filter housing and monitor shed away from the proposed excavation.
- Installed new ductwork, changed out pre-filters and performed DOP and flow tests on the relocated CV/DSB Ventilation System.

3. Storage Well (Reactor Cavity)

- Removed the Reactor Vessel (RV) embedded support plate and installed a temporary cover plate.
- Continued with remediation of contaminated concrete.
- Removed portions of the 18" wall per engineering direction to remove identified High Activity Points (also referred to as "areas of elevated activity"). This effort was halted when it became evident that the concrete removal areas would exceed that allowed by structural calculations.
- Core drilled 792' construction seam in the 5' wall between the Cavity and the Primary compartment to attempt to remove a High Activity Point.
- Performed selective ¾' core drills for contamination evaluation of the 18" wall.
- Terminated concrete removal efforts in October 2000 to pursue contractor selection for total removal of all CV concrete.

4. Auxiliary & Primary compartments

- Continued to remediate contaminated concrete.
- Removed the Rod Room watertight door.
- Removed the Rod Room sump drain line.
- Removed Filter Room drain line.
- Removed portions of the 795' & 781' steel and stairway from 812' to the 765' basement and replaced it with scaffold stairway.

5. North CV Yard Excavation

- Started demolition of the upper section of the CV north shield wall.
- Installed temporary dewatering wells and began excavation and remediation of the North CV Yard soil.
- Started shipping contaminated soil & excavation debris.

6. Tank Farm and Dewatering Field

- Set three poly tanks (total capacity 22,000 gallons) west of the CV to collect Saxton Steam Generating Station (SSGS) Discharge Tunnel, CV pipe tunnel water, and ground water from excavation activities.
- Installed an open top 16,000-gallon steel tank to stage additional ground water from excavation activities.

- Fabricated and installed a water management system to provide a controlled flow path for filling, recirculating, sampling, and discharging Tank Farm water to either the SNEC Drain Field or directly to the Juniata River.
- Built a heated structure/building over the Tank Farm and SSGS Discharge Tunnel entrance.
- Installed a 330' x 120' drain field, designed by the groundwater consultant, Haley & Aldridge, consisting of Geo-Tech fabric and straw bales to receive non-contaminated water.
- Installed a water distribution pipe header from the Tank Farm discharge and North CV Yard excavation area to the SNEC Drain Field.

7. SSGS Discharge Tunnel

- Performed scoping surveys and camera inspections of the SSGS Discharge Tunnel and 18" deicing line to the Intake Screens.
- Excavated the SSGS Spray Pond Pump Pit.
- Cleaned the SSGS Discharge Tunnel of concrete and miscellaneous debris.
- Removed contaminated silt from the SSGS Discharge Tunnel floors and walls.
- Removed downcomer pipe and contaminated piping from SSGS seal chamber #1
- Transferred initial inventory of water from the SSGS Tunnel and Seal Chambers to the Tank Farm.

8. SSGS Basement Investigation and Excavation

- Drilled 8 wells to the SSGS basement floor and sumps including 2 through the basement slab into the SSGS Intake Tunnel.
- Drilled wells into the SSGS Intake Trash Rake pit and yard manway.
- Installed 8-inch well casings and PVC tubes for Gamma Spectroscopy surveys.
- Performed Gamma Spectroscopy readings of each well.
- Extracted water and sediment samples.
- Contractor performed dose modeling of SSGS basement floor & sump using sample results obtained from the sampling program described above.
- Started excavation of SSGS basement.
- Provided Asbestos Worker training to site personnel.
- Started testing of debris for Asbestos Containing Material (ACM) and performed air monitoring during excavation of the SSGS Basement.
- Bagged and started shipment of ACM from the SSGS.

9. Yard Areas

- Removed brush and obstructions from open land areas in anticipation of the Large Area Survey project.
- Drilled additional groundwater monitoring wells to support the SNEC REMP.

C. Section 3.8.2.3 - Results of surveys and monitoring performed in accordance with Technical Specifications Sections 3.6.2.1 (Radioactive Effluent Controls Program) and 3.6.2.2 (Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program):

The results of the Radioactive Effluents Control Program are contained in the "2000 Annual Radioactive Release Report" submitted to the NRC via GPU Nuclear letter E910-01-010, dated April 23, 2001.

The results of the Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program are contained in the "2000 Radiological Environmental Monitoring Report" submitted to the NRC via GPU Nuclear letter E910-01-09 dated April 25, 2001.

D. Section 3.8.2.4 - The following is a review of the performance of access control and surveillance measures:

Access Control

1. A uniformed SNEC Site Watchman (Unarmed Security Officer) continues to provide access control to the site during normal work hours.
2. All SNEC personnel continue to display security badges during normal work hours. Visitors are issued temporary badges and require a permanent badged escort during their visit, until receiving a Radiological Site Access Briefing in accordance with 10CFR19.12.
3. SNEC Facility Management is responsible for maintaining access control to the Exclusion Area. The Exclusion Area (Decommissioning Support Facility and Containment Vessel) is maintained locked and a security alarm system is activated during non-working hours.
4. There were no break-ins or known attempted break-ins at the SNEC Facility during the year 2000.

Surveillances

All Technical Specification surveillances were performed in the required frequency as described in TS Section 3.5.3.1. The following surveillance inspections were reviewed for this report:

1. Verification that Exclusion Area access points are secured at the completion of each authorized entry.

There were no surveillance deficiencies involving Exclusion Area access in the year 2000.

2. Verification of the operability of the Exclusion Area intrusion alarms performed quarterly.

All surveillance inspections were performed satisfactorily in the year 2000.

3. The Station Ventilation System Effluent Particulate Monitor channel checks, source checks, channel test and channel calibration shall be performed at a frequency specified in the SNEC Facility Offsite Dose Calculation Manual (ODCM).

There were no surveillance deficiencies involving the Station Ventilation System Effluent Particulate Monitor channel checks, source checks, channel tests, and channel calibrations.

4. The Station Ventilation System HEPA filter will be tested to verify efficiencies in accordance with the requirements of the ODCM.

The Station Ventilation System HEPA filters were DOP tested in May 2000. There were no surveillance deficiencies involving Station Ventilation System HEPA filter testing in 2000.