

March 30, 1989

Docket No. 50-354

Mr. Steven E. Miltenberger
Vice President and Chief Nuclear
Officer
Public Service Electric and Gas
Company
Post Office Box 236
Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey 08038

Dear Mr. Miltenberger:

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
(TAC NO. 66041)

RE: HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION

In response to your letter dated August 13, 1987 as supplemented August 12, 1988, the Commission is considering issuance of an amendment for Hope Creek Generating Station. The proposed amendment would revise the Technical Specifications for the Hope Creek Generating Station to increase the maximum allowed response time for the high pressure coolant injection system.

We have enclosed a copy of the Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact for this proposed amendment which is being forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publications.

Sincerely,

/S/

Walter R. Butler, Director
Project Directorate I-2
Division of Reactor Projects I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
Environmental Assessment
and Finding of No
Significant Impact

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

DISTRIBUTION

Docket File
PDI-2 Reading
WButler/MO'Brien
OGC
ACRS (10)

NRC PDR & Local PDR
GLainas/BBoger
CShiraki/SBrown
EJordan/BGrimes
GPA/PA

DF01
1/1

[EA/HC]

PDI-2/DA
MO'Brien
3/15/89

PDI-2/PM
CShiraki:mr
3/15/89

OGC
N. ROMNEY
3/13/89

PDI-2/D
WButler
3/13/89

see comment in EA. Incorporated
2/28 cd 3/13/89

WB

CP

8904120366 890330
PDR ADOCK 05000354
PDC



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

March 30, 1989

Docket No. 50-354

Mr. Steven E. Miltenberger
Vice President and Chief Nuclear
Officer
Public Service Electric and Gas
Company
Post Office Box 236
Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey 08038

Dear Mr. Miltenberger:

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
(TAC NO. 66041)

RE: HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION

In response to your letter dated August 13, 1987 as supplemented August 12, 1988, the Commission is considering issuance of an amendment for Hope Creek Generating Station. The proposed amendment would revise the Technical Specifications for the Hope Creek Generating Station to increase the maximum allowed response time for the high pressure coolant injection system.

We have enclosed a copy of the Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact for this proposed amendment which is being forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publications.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Walter R. Butler", is written above the typed name.

Walter R. Butler, Director
Project Directorate I-2
Division of Reactor Projects I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
Environmental Assessment
and Finding of No
Significant Impact

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

Mr. Steven E. Miltenberger
Public Service Electric & Gas Co.

Hope Creek Generating Station

cc:

M. J. Wetterhahn, Esquire
Conner & Wetterhahn
Suite 1050
1747 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20006

R. Fryling, Jr., Esquire
Law Department - Tower 5E
80 Park Place
Newark, New Jersey 07101

Resident Inspector
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
P.O. Box 241
Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey 08038

Mr. S. LaBruna
Vice President - Nuclear Operations
Nuclear Department
P.O. Box 236
Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey 08038

Mr. J. J. Hagan
General Manager - Hope Creek Operations
Hope Creek Generating Station
P.O. Box 236
Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey 08038

Mr. B. A. Preston, Manager
Licensing and Regulation
Nuclear Department
P.O. Box 236
Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey 08038

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

Mr. David M. Scott, Chief
Bureau of Nuclear Engineering
Division of Environmental Quality
Department of Environmental Protection
State of New Jersey
CN 411
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONPUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANYDOCKET NO. 50-354ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OFNO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. NPF-57, issued to Public Service Electric & Gas Company, (the licensee), for operation of the Hope Creek Generating Station, located in Salem County, New Jersey.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTIdentification of Proposed Action:

The proposed amendment would revise the provisions in the Technical Specifications (TS) relating to the maximum allowed response time for the high pressure coolant injection system.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application for amendment dated August 13, 1987, as supplemented by a letter dated August 12, 1988.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed change to the TS is required in order to provide the licensee with as much operational flexibility as possible when calibrating the high pressure coolant injection system.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed revision to Technical Specifications. The proposed revision would revise the Technical Specifications Table 3.3.3-3, Emergency Core Cooling System Response Times, for Item No. 4, High Pressure Coolant Injection System (HPCI), from less than

8904120371 890330
PDR ADOCK 05000354
F PDC

or equal to 27 seconds to less than or equal to 35 seconds. This revision would provide Hope Creek Generating Station (HCGS) with flexibility in meeting their requirement for a HPCI cold quick start time without excessive system tuning. The proposed changes do not increase the probability or consequences of accidents since the accident scenarios which utilize the HPCI system: (1) have never been limiting events, and (2) do not pose the possibility of becoming limiting events as a result of the change. In addition, the proposed change does not affect the limiting peak cladding temperature values nor reduce the reactor vessel water level below Level 1 during a feedwater transient. No changes are being made in the types of any effluents that may be released offsite, and there is no significant increase in the allowable individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that this proposed action would result in no significant radiological environmental impact.

With regard to potential non-radiological impacts, the proposed change to the TS involves systems located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. It does not affect non-radiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant non-radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed amendment.

The Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment and Opportunity for Prior Hearing in connection with this action was published in the Federal Register on October 21, 1988 (53 FR 41430). No request for hearing or petition for leave to intervene was filed following this notice.

Alternative to the Proposed Action:

Since the Commission concluded that there are no significant environmental effects that would result from the proposed action, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impacts need not be evaluated.

The principal alternative would be to deny the requested amendment. This would not reduce environmental impacts of plant operation and would result in reduced operational flexibility.

Alternative Use of Resources:

This action does not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statements for the Hope Creek Generating Station, dated August, 1983.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

The NRC staff reviewed the licensee's request and did not consult other agencies or persons.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed license amendment.

Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, we conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated August 13, 1987 and a supplement dated August 12, 1988 which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. and at the Pennsville Public Library, 190 S. Broadway, Pennsville, New Jersey 08070.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 30th day of March 1989.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Walter R. Butler".

Walter Butler, Director
Project Directorate I-2
Division of Reactor Projects I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation