

Mr. Harold W. Keiser  
 Chief Nuclear Officer & President -  
 Nuclear Business Unit  
 Public Service Electric & Gas  
 Company  
 Post Office Box 236  
 Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

July 8, 1999

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT  
 IMPACT, CORRECTION OF TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION TYPOGRAPHICAL  
 AND EDITORIAL ERRORS, HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION  
 (TAC NO. MA5540)

Dear Mr. Keiser:

Enclosed is a copy of the Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact related to your application for amendment dated May 24, 1999, as supplemented June 21, 1999. The proposed amendment would revise the Hope Creek Generating Station Technical Specifications (TSs) to correct typographical and editorial errors. The proposed amendment is considered administrative in nature. These types of changes to the TSs do not meet the criterion for a categorical exclusion pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(c).

The assessment is being forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Richard B. Ennis, Project Manager, Section 2  
 Project Directorate I  
 Division of Licensing Project Management  
 Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-354

Enclosure: Environmental Assessment

cc w/encl: See next page

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

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R B Ennis".

Richard B. Ennis, Project Manager, Section 2  
Project Directorate I  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-354

Enclosure: Environmental Assessment

cc w/enc: See next page

Hope Creek Generating Station

cc:

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY

DOCKET NO. 50-354

HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF

NO 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 and Gas Company (the licensee), for operation of the Hope Creek Generating Station (HCGS), located in Salem County, New Jersey.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of the Proposed Action:

The proposed action would correct typographical and editorial errors in the HCGS Technical Specifications (TSs) in accordance with the licensee's application for amendment dated May 24, 1999, as supplemented June 21, 1999.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed action would provide clarity and administrative correctness to the TSs.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed action and concludes that the changes to the TSs are administrative in nature. The proposed action does not affect the assessment of environmental impacts described in the "Final Environmental Statement related to the operation of Hope Creek Generating Station" (NUREG-1074).

The proposed action will not increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no

changes are being made in the types of any effluents that may be released off site, and there is no significant increase in occupational or public radiation exposure. Therefore, there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

With regard to potential non-radiological impacts, the proposed action does not involve any historic sites. It does not affect non-radiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, there are no significant non-radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action:

As an alternative to the proposed action, the staff considered denial of the proposed action (i.e., the "no-action" alternative). Denial of the application would result in no change in current environmental impacts. The environmental impacts of the proposed action and the alternative action are similar.

Alternative Use of Resources:

This action does not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement for the HCGS.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

In accordance with its stated policy, on June 8, 1999, the staff consulted with the New Jersey State official, Mr. Richard Pinney of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comments.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

On the basis of the environmental assessment, the Commission concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, the Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed action.

For further details with respect to the proposed action, see the licensee's letter dated May 24, 1999, as supplemented by letter dated June 21, 1999, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, The Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room located at the Pennsville Public Library, 190 S. Broadway, Pennsville, New Jersey 08070.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 8th day of July 1999.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Richard B. Ennis, Project Manager, Section 2  
Project Directorate I  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation