

September 12, 1995

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

SUBJECT: HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION (TAC NO. M91027)

Dear Mr. Eliason:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 78 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-57 for the Hope Creek Generating Station. This amendment consists of changes to the Technical Specifications (TSs) in response to your application dated September 29, 1994.

This amendment revises Table 4.3.6-1, "Control Rod Block Instrumentation Surveillance," of the Hope Creek TS. The channel calibration frequencies for the Source Range Monitor (SRM) and the Intermediate Range Monitor (IRM), in TS Table 4.3.6-1, are changed for the up-scale and the down-scale trip functions on each instrument from "SA" (once-per-184 days) to "R" (once-per-refueling cycle).

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

You are requested to inform the NRC, in writing, when this amendment has been implemented. This requirement affects nine or fewer respondents and, therefore, is not subject to the Office of Management and Budget review under P.L. 96-511.

Sincerely,

original signed by J. Stolz for
David H. Jaffe, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate I-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Docket No. 50-354

Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. 78 to
License No. NPF-57
2. Safety Evaluation
cc w/encls: See next page

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

September 12, 1995

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Chief Nuclear Officer & President-
Nuclear Business Unit
Public Service Electric & Gas
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David H. Jaffe", is written over a horizontal line.

David H. Jaffe, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate I-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-354

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License No. NPF-57
2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

Mr. Leon R. Eliason
Public Service Electric & Gas
Company

Hope Creek Generating Station

cc:

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

PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANY

ATLANTIC CITY ELECTRIC COMPANY

DOCKET NO. 50-354

HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 78
License No. NPF-57

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission or the NRC) has found that:
 - A. The application for amendment filed by the Public Service Electric & Gas Company (PSE&G) dated September 29, 1994, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and 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 rules and 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 Facility Operating License No. NPF-57 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. 78 , and the Environmental Protection Plan contained in Appendix B, are hereby incorporated into the license. PSE&G shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications and the Environmental Protection Plan.

3. The license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance and shall be implemented within 60 days.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



John F. Stolz, 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: September 12, 1995

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 78

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-57

DOCKET NO. 50-354

Replace the following page of the Appendix "A" Technical Specifications with the attached page. The revised page is identified by Amendment number and contains vertical lines indicating the area of change.

Remove

3/4 3-60

Insert

3/4 3-60

TABLE 4.3.6-1

CONTROL ROD BLOCK INSTRUMENTATION SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS

<u>TRIP FUNCTION</u>	<u>CHANNEL CHECK</u>	<u>CHANNEL FUNCTIONAL TEST</u>	<u>CHANNEL CALIBRATION^(a)</u>	<u>OPERATIONAL CONDITIONS FOR WHICH SURVEILLANCE REQUIRED</u>
1. <u>ROD BLOCK MONITOR</u>				
a. Upscale	NA	Z ^{(c)(d)} , Q ^(c)	SA	1*
b. Inoperative	NA	Z ^{(c)(d)} , Q ^(c)	NA	1*
c. Downscale	NA	Z ^{(c)(d)} , Q ^(c)	SA	1*
2. <u>APRM</u>				
a. Flow Biased Neutron Flux - Upscale	NA	S/U ^(b) , Q	SA	1
b. Inoperative	NA	S/U ^(b) , Q	NA	1, 2, 5
c. Downscale	NA	S/U ^(b) , Q	SA	1
d. Neutron Flux - Upscale, Startup	NA	S/U ^(b) , Q	SA	2, 5
3. <u>SOURCE RANGE MONITORS</u>				
a. Detector not full in	NA	S/U ^(b) , W	NA	2, 5
b. Upscale	NA	S/U ^(b) , W	R	2, 5
c. Inoperative	NA	S/U ^(b) , W	NA	2, 5
d. Downscale	NA	S/U ^(b) , W	R	2, 5
4. <u>INTERMEDIATE RANGE MONITORS</u>				
a. Detector not full in	NA	S/U ^(b) , W	NA	2, 5
b. Upscale	NA	S/U ^(b) , W	R	2, 5
c. Inoperative	NA	S/U ^(b) , W	NA	2, 5
d. Downscale	NA	S/U ^(b) , W	R	2, 5
5. <u>SCRAM DISCHARGE VOLUME</u>				
a. Water Level-High (Float Switch)	NA	Q	R	1, 2, 5**
6. <u>REACTOR COOLANT SYSTEM RECIRCULATION FLOW</u>				
a. Upscale	NA	S/U ^(b) , Q	SA	1
b. Inoperative	NA	S/U ^(b) , Q	NA	1
c. Comparator	NA	S/U ^(b) , Q	SA	1
7. <u>REACTOR MODE SWITCH SHUTDOWN POSITION</u>	NA	R	NA	3, 4



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 78 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-57
PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANY
ATLANTIC CITY ELECTRIC COMPANY
HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION
DOCKET NO. 50-354

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated September 29, 1994, the Public Service Electric & Gas Company (the licensee) submitted a request for changes to the Hope Creek Generating Station, Technical Specifications (TSs). The requested changes would revise Table 4.3.6-1, "Control Rod Block Instrumentation Surveillance," of the Hope Creek TSs. The channel calibration frequencies for the Source Range Monitor (SRM) and the Intermediate Range Monitor (IRM), in TS Table 4.3.6-1, would be changed for the up-scale and the down-scale trip functions on each instrument from "SA" (once-per-184 days) to "R" (once-per-refueling cycle).

2.0 EVALUATION

The SRM and IRM upscale and downscale trip function instrumentation is part of the control rod block instrumentation that is provided to prevent excessive control rod withdrawal. The current surveillance requirements for SRM and IRM upscale and downscale trip function channel calibration in TS Table 4.3.6-1 specify an interval of once per 184 days. The licensee has proposed a revision to TS Table 4.3.6-1 that would specify a channel calibration interval of once per refueling cycle.

NUREG-1366, "Improvements to Technical Specification Surveillance Requirements," provided the results of a comprehensive examination of surveillance requirements in TS that require testing during power operation. The results of this effort indicated that while the majority of the testing at power was important, safety could be improved, equipment degradation decreased, and an unnecessary burden on personnel resources eliminated by reducing the amount of testing that the TS require during power operation.

One of the recommendations in NUREG-1366 was the extension of channel calibrations for SRM and IRM upscale and downscale trip functions to once each refueling cycle. Based upon a review of surveillance requirement results for the past 3 years for SRM and IRM channel calibrations, the licensee has concluded that the proposed TS changes are compatible with plant operating experience and are consistent with the guidance provided by NUREG-1366.

The staff has reviewed the licensee's proposal and finds that it is compatible with plant operations and is consistent with the guidance provided by NUREG-1366.

3.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the New Jersey State Official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendment. The State official had no comments.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendment changes the surveillance requirements. The NRC staff has determined that the amendment involves no significant increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types, of any effluents that may be released offsite, and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The Commission has previously issued a proposed finding that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration, and there has been no public comment on such finding (60 FR 3676). Accordingly, the amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b) no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendment.

5.0 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 amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributor: B. Marcus

Date: September 12, 1995