July 24, 1997

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. M97975)

Dear Mr. Eliason:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 100 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 February 11, 1997.

This amendment changes the Hope Creek TSs Sections 3/4.8.1, "A.C. Sources," 6.8, "Procedures and Programs," and the Bases for Section 3/4.8, "Electrical Power Systems," to include: 1) the relocation of existing surveillance requirements related to diesel fuel oil chemistry; 2) the introduction of a new program under TS 6.8.4.e, "Diesel Fuel Oil Testing Program"; 3) revisions to the TS Bases for Section 3/4.8 to incorporate information associated with the TS changes; and 4) editorial changes to implement required corrections.

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/
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

Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. 100 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

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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. 100
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 February 11, 1997, 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:

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(2) Technical Specifications and Environmental Protection Plan

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 100 , 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: July 24, 1997

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 100

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-57

DOCKET NO. 50-354

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

Remove	Insert
3/4 8-1	3/4 8-1
3/4 8-5	3/4 8-5
B 3/4 8-1	B 3/4 8-1
-	B 3/4 8-1a
-	B 3/4 8-1b
6-16a	6-16a

3/4.8 ELECTRICAL POWER SYSTEMS
3/4.8.1 A.C. SOURCES
A.C. SOURCES - OPERATING

LIMITING CONDITION FOR OPERATION

3.8.1.1 As a minimum, the following A.C. electrical power sources shall be OPERABLE:

a. Two physically independent circuits between the offsite transmission network and the onsite Class 1E distribution system, and

b. Four separate and independent diesel generators, each with:

1. A separate fuel oil day tank containing a minimum of 360 gallons of fuel,
2. A separate fuel storage system consisting of two storage tanks containing a minimum of 44,800 gallons of fuel, and
3. A separate fuel transfer pump for each storage tank.

APPLICABILITY: OPERATIONAL CONDITIONS 1, 2, and 3.

ACTION:

a. With one offsite circuit of the above required A.C. electrical power sources inoperable, demonstrate the OPERABILITY of the remaining A.C. sources by performing Surveillance Requirement 4.8.1.1.1.a within 1 hour and at least once per 8 hours thereafter. Restore the inoperable offsite circuit to OPERABLE status within 72 hours or be in at least HOT SHUTDOWN within the next 12 hours and in COLD SHUTDOWN within the following 24 hours.

b. With one diesel generator of the above required A.C. electrical power sources inoperable, demonstrate the OPERABILITY of the above required A.C. offsite sources by performing Surveillance Requirement 4.8.1.1.1.a within 1 hour and at least once per 8 hours thereafter. If the diesel generator became inoperable due to any cause other than an inoperable support system, an independently testable component, or preplanned preventive maintenance or testing, demonstrate the OPERABILITY of the remaining diesel generators by performing Surveillance Requirement 4.8.1.1.2.a.4 and 4.8.1.1.2.a.5 separately for each diesel generator within 16 hours* unless the absence of any potential common mode failure for the remaining diesel generators is demonstrated. Restore the inoperable diesel generator to OPERABLE status within 72 hours for diesel generators A or B, or within 14 days for diesel generators C or D, or be in at least HOT SHUTDOWN within the next 12 hours and in COLD SHUTDOWN within the following 24 hours.

* This test is required to be completed regardless of when the inoperable diesel generator is restored to OPERABILITY.

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS (Continued)

6. Verifying the diesel generator is aligned to provide standby power to the associated emergency busses.

7. Verifying the pressure in all diesel generator air start receivers to be greater than or equal to 325 psig.

8. Verifying the lube oil pressure, temperature and differential pressure across the lube oil filters to be within manufacturer's specifications.

b. At least once per 31 days by visually examining a sample of lube oil from the diesel engine to verify absence of water.

c. At least once per 31 days and after each operation of the diesel where the period of operation was greater than or equal to 1 hour by checking for and removing accumulated water from the fuel oil day tank.

d. At least once per 92 days by removing accumulated water from the fuel oil storage tanks.

e. At least once per 31 days by performing a functional test on the emergency load sequencer to verify operability.

f. In accordance with the surveillance interval specified in the Diesel Fuel Oil Testing Program and prior to the addition of new fuel oil to the storage tank, samples shall be taken to verify fuel oil quality. Sampling and testing of new and stored fuel oil shall be in accordance with the Diesel Fuel Oil Testing Program contained in Specification 6.8.4.e.

3/4.8 ELECTRICAL POWER SYSTEMS

BASES

3/4.8.1. 3/4.8.2 and 3/4.8.3 A.C. SOURCES, D.C. SOURCES and ONSITE POWER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS

The OPERABILITY of the A.C. and D.C. power sources and associated distribution systems during operation ensures that sufficient power will be available to supply the safety related equipment required for (1) the safe shutdown of the facility and (2) the mitigation and control of accident conditions within the facility. The minimum specified independent and redundant A.C. and D.C. power sources and distribution systems satisfy the requirements of General Design Criteria 17 of Appendix "A" to 10 CFR 50.

The ACTION requirements specified for the levels of degradation of the power sources provide restriction upon continued facility operation commensurate with the level of degradation. The OPERABILITY of the power sources are consistent with the initial condition assumptions of the safety analyses and are based upon maintaining at least one of the onsite A.C. and the corresponding D.C. power sources and associated distribution systems OPERABLE during accident conditions coincident with an assumed loss of offsite power and single failure of the other onsite A.C. or D.C. source.

The A.C. and D.C. source allowable out-of-service times are based on Regulatory Guide 1.93, "Availability of Electrical Power Sources", December 1974 as modified by plant specific analysis and diesel generator manufacturer recommendations. When two diesel generators are inoperable, there is an additional ACTION requirement to verify that all required systems, subsystems, trains, components and devices, that depend on the remaining OPERABLE diesel generators as a source of emergency power, are also OPERABLE. This requirement is intended to provide assurance that a loss of offsite power event will not result in a complete loss of safety function of critical systems during the period two or more of the diesel generators are inoperable. The term verify as used in this context means to administratively check by examining logs or other information to determine if certain components are out-of-service for maintenance or other reasons. It does not mean to perform the surveillance requirements needed to demonstrate the OPERABILITY of the component. The primary intent of the extended AOT is that the extended EDG AOT from 72 hours to 14 days may be needed to perform preplanned EDG maintenance such as teardowns and modifications that would otherwise extend beyond the original 72 hour AOT.

For proper operation of the standby EDGs, it is necessary to ensure the proper quality of the fuel oil. USNRC Regulatory Guide 1.137 addresses the recommended fuel oil practices as supplemented by ANSI N195-1976. The fuel oil properties governed by these surveillance requirements are the water and sediment content, the kinematic viscosity, specific gravity (or API gravity) and impurity level.

The initial conditions of Design Basis Accident (DBA) and transient analyses in the UFSAR, Chapter 6 and Chapter 15, assume Engineered Safety Feature (ESF) systems are operable. The EDGs are designed to provide sufficient capacity, capability, redundancy and reliability to ensure the

BASES

A.C. SOURCES, D.C. SOURCES and ONSITE POWER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS (continued)

availability of necessary power to ESF systems so that fuel, reactor coolant system and containment design limits are not exceeded.

Stored diesel fuel oil is required to have sufficient supply for 7 days of full load operation. It is also required to meet specific standards for quality. Additionally, sufficient lube oil supply must be available to ensure the capability to operate at full load for 7 days. This requirement, in conjunction with an ability to obtain replacement supplies within 7 days, supports the availability of EDGs required to shut down the reactor and to maintain it in a safe condition for an anticipated operational occurrence (AOO) or a postulated DBA with loss of offsite power. EDG day tank fuel oil requirements, as well as transfer capability from the storage tanks to the day tank, are addressed in LCO 3.8.1, "AC Sources - Operating", and LCO 3.8.2, "AC Sources - Shutdown."

The AC sources (LCO 3.8.1 and LCO 3.8.2) are required to ensure the availability of the required power to shut down the reactor and maintain it in a safe shutdown condition after an AOO or a postulated DBA. Because stored diesel fuel oil supports LCO 3.8.1 and LCO 3.8.2, the stored diesel fuel oil is required to be within limits when the associated EDG is required to be operable.

For specification 6.8.4.e, the tests listed are a means of determining whether new fuel oil is of the appropriate grade and has not been contaminated with substances that would have an immediate detrimental impact on diesel engine combustion. If results from these tests are within acceptable limits, the fuel oil may be added to the storage tanks without concern for contaminating the entire volume of fuel oil in the storage tanks. These tests are to be conducted prior to adding the new fuel to the storage tanks. The tests, limits and applicable ASTM standards are as follows:

a. Sample the new fuel oil in accordance with ASTM D4057-81;

b. Verify in accordance with the tests specified in ASTM D975, that the sample has an absolute specific gravity at 60/60° F of ≥ 0.83 and ≤ 0.89 or an API gravity at 60° F of ≥ 27 and ≤ 39, a kinematic viscosity of 40° C of ≥ 1.9 centistokes and ≤ 4.1 centistokes, and a flash point of ≥ 125° F; and

c. Verify that the new fuel oil bulk water and sediment are within limits for ASTM 2 D fuel oil.

Failure to meet any of the above limits is cause for rejecting the new fuel oil, but does not represent a failure to meet the LCO concern since the fuel oil is not added to the storage tanks.

Within 31 days following the initial new fuel oil sample, the fuel oil is analyzed to establish that the other properties specified in Table 1 of

A.C. SOURCES, D.C. SOURCES and ONSITE POWER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS (continued)

ASTM D975-94 are met for the new fuel oil when tested in accordance with ASTM D975-94, except that the analysis for sulfur may be performed in accordance with ASTM D1552-64. The 31 day period is acceptable because the fuel oil properties of interest, even if they were not within stated limits, would not have an immediate effect on EDG operation. This surveillance ensures the availability of high quality fuel oil for the EDGs.

Fuel oil degradation during long term storage shows up as an increase in particulate, mostly due to oxidation. The presence of particulate does not mean that the fuel oil will not burn properly in a diesel engine. However, the particulate can cause fouling of filters and fuel oil injection equipment, which can cause engine failure.

Particulate concentration should be determined in accordance with ASTM D2276-94, Method A. This method involves a gravimetric determination of total particulate concentration in the fuel oil and has a limit of 10 mg/1. The 0.8 micron filters specified in ASTM D2276-94 may be replaced with membrane filters up to 3.0 microns. This is acceptable since the closest tolerance fuel filter in the HC EDGs is a five micron particle retention duplex filter on the engine driven fuel oil pump. It is acceptable to obtain a field sample for subsequent laboratory testing in lieu of field testing. The total volume of stored fuel oil contained in two or more interconnected tanks must be considered and tested separately. The frequency of this test takes into consideration fuel oil degradation trends that indicate that particulate concentration is unlikely to change significantly between frequency intervals.

The OPERABILITY of the minimum specified A.C. and D.C. power sources and associated distribution systems during shutdown and refueling ensures that (1) the facility can be maintained in the shutdown or refueling condition for extended time periods and (2) sufficient instrumentation and control capability is available for monitoring and maintaining the unit status.

The surveillance requirements for demonstrating the OPERABILITY of the diesel generators are in accordance with the recommendations of Regulatory Guide 1.9, "Selection of Diesel Generator Set Capacity for Standby Power Supplies", March 10, 1971, Regulatory Guide 1.108, "Periodic Testing of Diesel Generator Units Used as Onsite Electric Power Systems at Nuclear Power Plants", Revision 1, August 1977 and Regulatory Guide 1.137 "Fuel-Oil Systems for Standby Diesel Generators", Revision 1, October 1979 as modified by plant specific analysis, diesel generator manufacturer's recommendations, and Amendment 59, to the Facility Operating License, issued November 22, 1993.

d. Explosive Gas Monitoring

This program provides controls for potentially explosive gas mixtures contained in the Main Condenser Offgas Treatment System. The program shall include the limit for hydrogen concentration in the Main Condenser Offgas Treatment System and a surveillance program to ensure the limit is maintained. This limit shall be appropriate to the system's design criteria (i.e., whether or not the system is designed to withstand a hydrogen explosion).

The provisions of Surveillance Requirements 4.0.2 and 4.0.3 are applicable to the Explosive Gas Monitoring Program surveillance frequencies.

e. Diesel Fuel Oil Testing Program

A diesel fuel oil testing program to implement required testing of both new fuel and stored fuel oil shall be established. The program shall include sampling and testing requirements, and acceptance criteria, all in accordance with applicable ASTM Standards. The purpose of the program is to establish the following:

a. Acceptability of new fuel oil for use prior to addition to storage tanks by determining that the fuel oil has:

   1. an API gravity or absolute specific gravity within limits for ASTM 2D fuel oil,

   2. a flash point and kinematic viscosity within limits for ASTM 2D fuel oil, and

   3. bulk water and sediment within limits for ASTM 2D fuel oil;

b. Other properties for new ASTM 2D fuel oil are within limits within 31 days following sampling and addition to storage tanks; and

c. Total particulate concentration of the stored fuel oil is $\leq$ 10 mg/1 when tested every 92 days in accordance with ASTM D-2276, modified as follows: The 0.8 micron membrane filters specified in ASTM D-2276 may be replaced with membrane filters up to 3.0 microns.

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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 100 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 February 11, 1997, the Public Service Electric and Gas Company (PSE&G) requested an amendment to the Hope Creek Generating Station (HCGS) Facility Operating License. The proposed change to HCGS Technical Specifications (TSs) would change TS Sections 3/4.8.1, "A.C. Sources", 6.8, "Procedures and Programs", and the Bases for Section 3/4.8, "Electrical Power Systems," to include: 1) the relocation of existing surveillance requirements related to diesel fuel oil chemistry; 2) the introduction of a new program under TS 6.8.4.e, "Diesel Fuel Oil Testing Program"; 3) revisions to the TS Bases for Section 3/4.8 to incorporate information associated with the TS changes; and 4) editorial changes to implement required corrections.

2.0 DISCUSSION AND EVALUATION

The staff has evaluated the following proposed changes to the plant's TSs:

(1) TS 4.8.1.1.2f - Relocation of the existing surveillance requirements

TS 4.8.1.1.2f contains requirements for the surveillance of the new diesel fuel oil prior to its addition to the storage tank. The licensee proposes to delete these requirements and establish a similar program in the Procedures and Programs (Section 6.8) of the HCGS TS. This change is acceptable because, with the establishment of the new program in Section 6.8 of the TSs, the requirements of TS 4.8.1.1.2f are unnecessary. The location of the programmatic requirements for surveillance of fuel oil, in the Administrative Controls Section of the TSs, is consistent with the format of the Improved Standard Technical Specifications (ISTS), NUREG-1433, Revision 1.

(2) TS 6.8.4.e - Diesel fuel oil testing program

The licensee proposes to add a new specification for the fuel oil testing program to the Administrative Controls Section (Procedures and Programs) of the HCGS TSs. This specification, TS 6.8.4e, describes a test program for the new fuel oil before its addition to the storage tank. With a few exceptions, it is identical to the program described in the ISTS.

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The exceptions are:

(a) Bulk water and sediment will not be determined by the clear and bright method of American Society of Testing and Materials (ASTM) D4176, as specified in the ISTS, but using the centrifuge method, specified in ASTM D1796 standard. This method provides acceptable quantitative assessment of bulk water and sediments.

(b) Testing for particulate matter will be done once per 92 days instead of once per 31 days, as specified in the STS. The plant's experience from several years of operation has indicated that the stored fuel has not exhibited any problems related to the presence of particulates. Moreover, the 92-day surveillance interval was a part of the original design basis of HCGS until License Amendment No. 74, issued on June 29, 1995, changed the interval to 184 days. Accordingly, this proposed change is acceptable.

(c) The ASTM D-2276 particulate analysis method has been modified to use a 3.0 micron membrane filter instead of a 0.8 micron membrane filter. This modification is justified because the original ASTM-2276 was intended to test fuel for aircraft and not for diesel engines. The HCGS emergency diesel generators have a five micron particle retention duplex filter on the engine driven fuel oil pump discharge header. Fuel testing using a 3.0 micron membrane filter is conservative and therefore acceptable.

(3) Bases - TS Section B 3/4.8

This section of the TSs was modified to incorporate pertinent information which supports the proposed amendments to the plant's TSs. In the area of fuel oil quality requirements, the amended Bases specify the standards described in Regulatory Guide 1.137 as supplemented by ASTM D195. They also specify in more detail the requirements which the new fuel oil has to meet before it can be added to the storage tanks. All these specifications are in conformance with those of the STS with exception of the ASTM D4176 test for water and sediment and the ASTM D129 test for sulfur. These standards were replaced by ASTM D1796 and ASTM D1552, respectively. Because the new standards assure more accurate verification of diesel fuel oil quality this departure from the STS is acceptable.

(4) TS 3.8.1.1.c - Editorial change

A portion of LCO 3.8.1.1, Action c on page 3/4 8-1 was deleted because in the previous amendment the whole Action c was moved to page 3/4 8-2, but inadvertently it was not removed from page 3/4 8-1. This constitutes only an editorial change and does not affect the substance of this TS.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendment changes a requirement with respect to installation or use of a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20 and 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 effluent 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 (62 FR 14469). The amendment also relates to changes in 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)(9) and (10). 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.

4.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the New Jersey State Official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendment. By letter dated March 3, 1997, the State official indicated that there were no comments.

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: K. Parczewski

Date: July 24, 1997