

APR 09 2003

LRN-03-0157



PSEG
Nuclear LLC

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

Gentlemen:

**REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
INSERVICE INSPECTION PROGRAM RELIEF REQUEST
HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION
FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NPF-57
DOCKET NO. 50-354**

By letter dated February 14, 2003, PSEG Nuclear LLC (PSEG) requested relief (HC-RR-A06) from the requirements of sub paragraph IWA-5250 (a) (2) of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, Section XI, 1989 Edition, in order to implement the alternative requirements of Code Case N-566-2, *Corrective Action for Leakage at Bolted Connections, Section XI, Division 1*, at the Hope Creek Generating Station. The request for relief is for the second 10-year inservice inspection (ISI) interval.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff discussed the subject relief request with PSEG staff on April 1, 2003 and requested additional information be provided. Pursuant to that request, PSEG is submitting the enclosed response to the request for additional information.

Should you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Mr. Howard Berrick at 856-339-1862.

Sincerely,

G. Salamon

Manager – Nuclear Safety and Licensing

Enclosure - Relief Request HC-RR-A06 Request for Additional Information

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REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION

By letter dated February 14, 2003 PSEG Nuclear LLC (PSEG) submitted relief request HC-RR-A06 for relief from the requirements of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, Section XI sub paragraph IWA-5250 (a) (2), for Hope Creek Generating Station. The request for relief is for the second 10-year inservice inspection (ISI) interval in which Hope Creek adopted the 1989 Edition of ASME Section XI, as the Code of record.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has requested answers to the following questions regarding the relief request submittal:

1. **The request does not address what actions would be taken in the event that the evaluation of Code Case N-566-2, paragraphs (a) or (b) determines that the relevant condition cannot be accepted for continuing operation. Please specify what actions would be taken in this event and the requirements directing those actions, e.g., code, procedures.**

PSEG Response: In the event that the relevant condition cannot be accepted for continuing operation using Code Case N-566-2 paragraphs (a) or (b), Hope Creek Generating Station would correct the condition in accordance with its ASME XI Article IWA-4000 Repair/Replacement Activities and PSEGs ASME XI Repair Program requirements.

2. **The relief request does not address what subsequent inspections would be performed in the event that the evaluation of Code Case N-566-2, paragraphs (a) or (b) determines that the relevant condition can be accepted for continuing service. This is of particular interest for Code Class 2 and 3 components. Please specify what actions would be taken in this event and the requirements directing those actions, e.g., code, procedures.**

PSEG Response:

In the event that the evaluation of Code Case N-566-2 paragraphs (a) or (b) determines that the relevant condition can be accepted for continuing service, Hope Creek Generating Station would periodically conduct visual inspections of affected components to verify operating conditions have not changed affecting earlier calculation assumptions. These activities would be completed in accordance with PSEGs ASME XI Repair Program requirements.

If the component's operating conditions have changed, then an additional calculation would be prepared using the newly acquired information to support assumptions made. If the calculation determines that the relevant condition cannot be accepted for continuing operation or PSEG elects to correct the condition, the condition would be corrected in accordance with its ASME XI Article IWA-4000 Repair/Replacement Activities and PSEG Nuclear's ASME XI Repair Program requirements.

Coordination of these work activities is governed by PSEG procedure NC.WM-AP.ZZ-0001 (Q) Work Management Process.