



**State of New Jersey**

James E. McGreevey  
Governor

Department of Environmental Protection  
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Radiation Protection and Release Prevention Element  
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Bradley M. Campbell  
Commissioner

July 3, 2003

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

Dear Sir:

**Subject: Hope Creek Generating Station  
Docket No. 50-354  
License Change Request H02-011  
Request to Eliminate the Post Accident Sampling System  
Technical Specification Requirements**

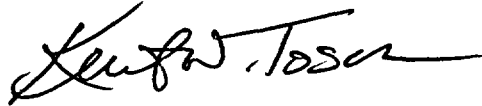
PSEG Nuclear LLC submitted the proposed change to the Hope Creek Technical Specifications by letter to the NRC dated March 13, 2003. The proposed change would delete Technical Specification 6.8.4.c, "Post Accident Sampling", and thereby eliminate the requirements to have and maintain the post accident sampling system at Hope Creek.

We noted, that in Attachment I to the March 13 letter, PSEG commits to develop and maintain contingency plans for obtaining and analyzing highly radioactive samples of reactor coolant, containment sump and containment atmosphere. Based on a conversation we had with PSEG Hope Creek Chemistry Personnel on June 20, 2003, it is our understanding that PSEG will install the shielding required to allow sampling of the normal sampling points during accident conditions based on an engineering evaluation.

It is our expectation, that following an accident the radionuclide mix be characterized within a reasonable period of time, say within 24 hours, by whatever means available. This mix must be defined prior to consideration of protective action recommendations being developed for ingestion pathway issues. We believe that the federal Department of Energy with their role in post accident radiation surveys and assessment would have similar needs.

I would also recommend that the federal Department of Energy be consulted as to their expectations for sampling. If you need to discuss the subject further, please contact me at (609) 984-7700 or Elliot Rosenfeld at (609) 984-7548.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kent W. Tosch". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Kent W. Tosch, Manager  
Bureau of Nuclear Engineering

c: Dr. Jill Lipoti, DEP  
Dennis Zannoni, DEP  
Dr. Robert Bores, NRC  
Richard Ennis, NRC Licensing Project Manager  
Mel Gray, Sr Resident Inspector  
Gabor Salamon, PSEG Nuclear LLC  
Don Daigler, DOE FRMAC