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LR-N03-0526

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
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Washington, DC 20555

**OSCILLATION POWER RANGE MONITOR (OPRM) OPERABILITY  
HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION  
FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NPF-57  
DOCKET NO. 50-354**

- References: (1) David F. Garchow (PSEG Nuclear) letter to NRC, "Revision to Implementation Schedule and Withdrawal of License Change Request," dated October 19, 2001
- (2) K. S. Putnam (BWR Owners' Group) letter to NRC, "Resolution of Reportable Condition for Stability Reload Licensing Calculations Using Generic Regional Mode DIVOM Curve," dated September 30, 2003
- (3) K. S. Putnam (BWR Owners' Group) letter to NRC, "Utility Commitment to NRC for OPRM Operability at Option III Plants," dated September 30, 2003

PSEG Nuclear LLC (PSEG) is submitting this letter to inform the NRC regarding plans to enable the Oscillation Power Range Monitor (OPRM) trip function for the Hope Creek Generating Station.

The Hope Creek OPRM is currently installed with the trip function disabled. Hope Creek is operating under the Interim Corrective Actions (ICAs) described in our response to Generic Letter 94-02 until the OPRM trip function is enabled and revised Technical Specifications are implemented. The ICAs include restrictions on plant operation and procedural requirements for appropriate operator action in response to a potential instability event.

In Reference 1, PSEG informed the NRC that implementation of the Oscillation Power Range Monitor (OPRM) trip function would be deferred until the issue of setpoint methodology was resolved and an applicable approved methodology was in place. The issue involved potentially non-conservative assumptions used in the development of OPRM trip setpoints.

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In Reference 2, the BWR Owners' Group informed the NRC of the recommended resolution to the setpoint issue. Reference 3 requested each affected plant to inform the NRC regarding plans to support OPRM operability.

PSEG believes it prudent to complete the remaining installation and test activities for the OPRM trip function when the plant is shutdown in order to minimize the potential for plant transients. Therefore, PSEG intends to complete this work during the Fall 2004 refueling outage. A license change request incorporating the OPRM trip function into the Hope Creek Technical Specifications will be submitted by March 31, 2004. Assuming NRC approval of the requested Technical Specifications, PSEG plans to make the OPRM trip function operable before restart from the Fall 2004 refueling outage.

This letter replaces the implementation schedule provided in Reference 1.

Should you have any questions regarding this information, please contact Mr. Paul Duke at (856) 339-1466.

Sincerely,



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Sr. Vice President - Site Operations

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