

May 25, 2004

RI-2002-A-0160

Mr. Roy A. Anderson
President and Chief Nuclear Officer
PSEG Nuclear LLC - N09
P. O. Box 236
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

Dear Mr. Anderson:

The Region I Field Office of NRC Office of Investigations (OI) initiated an investigation (OI Case No. 1-2003-012) on January 24, 2003, to determine if commercial-grade chemistry monitoring equipment at Hope Creek was installed in-plant by chemistry personnel without approval for installation by existing work control processes. The equipment was purportedly installed in parallel with existing chemistry monitoring equipment and may have involved making additional fire barrier penetrations or introducing a new unanalyzed failure. Direct inspection of the installation confirmed that the installation penetrated fire barriers and that it had been done without following work control processes. The OI investigation was completed on December 24, 2003. OI did not substantiate that any violation of NRC requirements occurred as a result of this installation because the installed cables did not penetrate fire barriers required by the NRC- approved fire protection plan. Related NRC technical review did not identify any adverse impact on safety-related plant components and the failure to follow work control processes in this instance was found to be captured appropriately within the corrective action program.

Please note that final NRC documents, such as the OI report described above, may be made available to the public under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) subject to redaction of information appropriate under the FOIA. Requests under the FOIA should be made in accordance with 10 CFR 9.23, Requests for Records, a copy of which is enclosed for your information.

Also, in accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosure, and your response, if any, will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please feel free to contact Mr. D. Holody of my staff at (610) 337-5211.

Sincerely,

/RA/

A. Randolph Blough, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Enclosure: 10 CFR 9.23, Requests for Records

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. R. Anderson

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