

October 29, 2004

Mr. A. Christopher Bakken, III
President & Chief Nuclear Officer
PSEG Nuclear LLC-X15
Post Office Box 236
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

SUBJECT: HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION - DELAY IN SUBMISSION OF FUEL
DEPENDENT ANALYSES (TAC NO. MC3390)

Dear Mr. Bakken:

By letter dated June 7, 2004, PSEG Nuclear, LLC (PSEG) requested U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) approval of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. NPF-57 for the Hope Creek Generating Station (Hope Creek). The amendment would allow the implementation of Average Power Range Monitor/Rod Block Monitor/Technical Specifications (TSs)/Maximum Extended Load Line Limit Analysis. In this submittal, PSEG indicated that it would submit the Hope Creek fuel dependent analyses results and, if required, any additional TS changes associated with the fuel dependent evaluations on or before September 30, 2004. Per schedule discussions between PSEG and the NRC staff, approval of the amendment was requested within 6 months after submittal of the fuel dependent evaluations.

By letter dated September 30, 2004, PSEG informed the NRC that the fuel dependent analyses would not be submitted until November 30, 2004. The NRC initially scheduled its review based upon the anticipated submission of the fuel dependent analyses on September 30, 2004. As such, any delay in your submission of the fuel analysis will result in a delay in the NRC review of the application. It should be noted that your anticipated submittal date is during a time period when the NRC staff workload will be increased due to items such as preparation for spring refueling outages. Accordingly, your delay in submission of the fuel dependent evaluations may result in a change in our review schedule in light of other priority actions currently under NRC staff review. We will inform you of the new review schedule once the fuel dependent evaluations have been submitted.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Daniel S. Collins, Sr. Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate I
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-354

cc: See next page

Hope Creek Generating Station

cc:

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Vice President - Eng/Tech Support
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Vice President - Site Operations
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Director - Licensing & Nuclear Safety
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Lower Alloways Creek Township
c/o Mary O. Henderson, Clerk
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Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

Dr. Jill Lipoti, Asst. Director
Radiation Protection Programs
NJ Department of Environmental
Protection and Energy
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Hope Creek Generating Station
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Drawer 0509
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

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Daniel S. Collins, Sr. Project Manager, Section 2
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