October 29, 2004

Mr. Britt T. McKinney
Vice President - Nuclear Site Operations
PPL Susquehanna, LLC
769 Salem Blvd. - NUCSB3
Berwick, PA 18603-0467

SUBJECT: SENIOR REACTOR OPERATOR INITIAL EXAMINATION RETAKE - SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2

Dear Mr. McKinney:

In a telephone conversation on October 27, 2004 between Mr. John Caruso, Senior Examiner/Inspector and Mr. Robert Boesch, Supervisor Nuclear Training, arrangements were made for the administration of an operating retake licensing examination at Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Units 1 and 2, during the week of January 31, 2005.

As agreed during the telephone conversation, your staff will prepare the operating test based on the guidelines in Revision 9 of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors." The NRC's regional office will discuss with your staff any changes that might be necessary before the examinations are administered.

To meet the above schedule, it will be necessary for your staff to furnish the test outlines by November 18, 2004. The operating test, and the supporting reference materials identified in Attachment 2 of ES-201 will be due by December 18, 2004. Pursuant to Title 10, Section 55.40(b)(3), of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR 55.40(b)(3)), an authorized representative of the facility licensee shall approve the outlines, and tests before they are submitted to the NRC for review and approval. All materials should be complete and ready-to-use. Any delay in receiving the required examinations and reference materials, or the submittal of inadequate or incomplete materials, may cause the examination to be rescheduled.

In order to conduct the requested operating test, it will be necessary for your staff to make the simulation facility available on the dates noted above. In accordance with ES-302, your staff should retain the original simulator performance data (e.g., system pressures, temperatures, and levels) generated during the dynamic operating test until the examination results are final.

Appendix E of NUREG-1021 contains a number of NRC policies and guidelines that will be in effect while the written examinations and operating tests are being administered.

To permit timely NRC review and evaluation, your staff should submit the preliminary senior reactor operator license application (Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval number 3150-0090), medical certifications (OMB approval number 3150-0024), and waiver requests (OMB approval number 3150-0090) at least 30 days before the first examination date. If the application is not received at least 30 days before the examination date, a postponement

may be necessary. A signed application certifying that all training has been completed should be submitted at least 14 days before the first examination date.

This letter contains information collections that are subject to the *Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995* (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). These information collections were approved by OMB, under approval number 3150-0018, which expires on June 30, 2006. The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 50 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments on any aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Information and Records Management Branch (T-6 F33), U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555-0001, or by Internet electronic mail at BJS1@nrc.gov; and to the Desk Officer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, NEOB-10202, (3150-0018), Office of Management and Budget, Washington, D.C. 20503.

The NRC may neither conduct nor sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, an information collection, unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC's Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of the NRC's Agencywide Document Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the Electronic Reading Room page of the NRC's public Web site at http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Mr. Boesch has been advised of the policies and guidelines referenced in this letter. If you have any questions regarding the NRC's examination procedures and guidelines, please contact John Caruso at (610) 337-5389, or me at (610) 337-5183.

Sincerely,

/RA/ WLanning for

Richard J. Conte, Chief
Operational Safety Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 50-387, 50-388
License Nos. NPF-14, NPF-22

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