

January 19, 2005

LICENSEE: PSEG NUCLEAR, LLC.

FACILITY: HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF DECEMBER 17, 2004, MEETING WITH PSEG TO DISCUSS
'B' RECIRCULATION PUMP HIGH VIBRATIONS (TAC NO. MC5111)

On December 17, 2004, at 10:00 a.m., the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff conducted a Category 1 technical meeting with PSEG Nuclear, LLC (PSEG or the licensee), at NRC Headquarters in Rockville, Maryland. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the licensee's preliminary responses to questions developed during the NRC staff's review of actions taken to address high vibrations identified on the Hope Creek Generating Station (Hope Creek) 'B' recirculation pump. Members of the public were also given the opportunity to observe the meeting, and to ask questions of the NRC staff, via a telephone conference bridge.

As previously stated, the NRC staff raised a number of questions as a result of its review of the 'B' recirculation pump vibration issue. These questions were first communicated to PSEG verbally by members of the NRC Region I staff, and have subsequently been made available to the public via the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) under Accession Number ML043480164. Prior to the meeting, PSEG provided preliminary responses to the questions to the NRC staff. PSEG's preliminary responses to the questions are available in ADAMS under Accession Number ML043510279. The NRC staff notes that, because the questions were first transmitted verbally to the licensee, the questions reiterated in the licensee's preliminary response may not necessarily match the NRC questions verbatim.

The meeting was opened by Robert J. Fretz, Project Manager, Division of Licensing Project Management, who discussed the purpose of the meeting and outlined the logistical aspects such as public participation. All participants and observers were given an opportunity to identify themselves and the organization they represented. A list of those in attendance at NRC Headquarters is enclosed.

Michael Gallagher, Vice President of Engineering, PSEG, opened the technical discussion with a brief overview of the history of the 'B' recirculation pump, the analysis provided to the NRC, industry experience with recirculation pump shafts, and the licensee's vibration monitoring program.

Following the licensee's introductory remarks, Raymond Lorson, Chief of the Materials and Structural Engineering Branch, NRC Region I, led the discussion on the licensee's preliminary responses to each of the questions posed by the NRC staff. Members of the NRC staff provided feedback to PSEG on those answers that needed additional supporting information, and identified those questions that had been adequately addressed.

The meeting included a lunch break, and prior to the break, members of the public were provided an opportunity to raise questions to the NRC staff. During this time, two questions were raised by members of the public observing the meeting via telephone conference. The

two questions involved the availability of copies of PSEG's preliminary responses to those not in attendance at NRC Headquarters. An electronic copy of this document was subsequently made available to the public on the NRC public website, and instructions on its location were given at the resumption of the meeting following the lunch break.

After the lunch break, the remaining questions were discussed, and a list of outstanding action items was developed. The following is a list of the items to be provided to the NRC by PSEG:

- Objective information that shows the auxiliary impeller rubbing is no longer a concern
- A pump drawing that shows all clearances including the auxiliary impeller
- The updated vibration monitoring plan
- Additional restrictions for startup of recirculation pumps
- A description of the operators response to a high vibration alarm
- The design change package for the drywell monitoring
- Supporting information for the ability of monitored parameters to predict an incipient shaft failure
- Relocation information for the axial probes and completion time
- Status of the Sargent & Lundy recommendations
- A list of past maintenance items on the residual heat removal system and the recirculation system due to fatigue or vibration
- Provide the engineering evaluation for the 'B' recirculation pump
- A description of the power source for the recirculation pump isolation valves
- A justification of why relocation of the vibration probes would have no impact on the vibration level measurements
- Material strength information for the pump shaft
- Provide background data on the high-pressure coolant injection (HPCI) exhaust
- Bechtel piping design specifications for the HPCI exhaust line

Prior to adjournment of the meeting, members of the public were given another opportunity to ask questions of the NRC staff. Dr. Jill Lipoti, Director of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Nuclear Engineering, commented on the difficulty in comparing the licensee's preliminary responses to the list of questions verbally communicated to PSEG. Dr. Lipoti was concerned that the licensee may have not adequately addressed the NRC staff's questions. Also, Dr. Lipoti requested information about additional public meetings

on this subject, as well as the planned upcoming public meeting prior to the restart of Hope Creek from its extended refueling outage. The NRC staff noted that, because of the uncertainty surrounding the timeline for receiving the additional information from PSEG, the NRC staff was not able to commit to a specific time for future public meetings with the licensee at this time. Finally, Dr. Kymn Harvin provided a number of comments in reference to PSEG's response to the high vibrations on the 'B' recirculation pump, and urged the NRC staff to require the licensee to replace the 'B' recirculation pump shaft prior to the restart of Hope Creek.

Subsequently, no more questions were identified and the meeting was adjourned.

Please direct any inquires concerning this meeting to Mr. Daniel Collins, Senior Project Manager, Hope Creek. Mr. Collins may be reached at (301) 415-1427, or dxc1@nrc.gov.

/RA/

Robert J. Fretz, Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate I
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure: Attendance sheets

Docket No. 50-354

cc w/encl: See next page

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OFFICE	PDI-2/PE	PDI-2/PM	PDI-2/PM	PDI-2/LA	PDI-2/SC
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OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

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