PRELIMINARY INFORMATION - NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE UNTIL VERIFICATION THAT LICENSEE HAS RECEIVED ACTION

February 23, 2005 RN-05-005___

OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT NOTIFICATION OF SIGNIFICANT REGULATORY ACTION

Licensee: PSEG Nuclear, LLC EA-05-001

Hope Creek Nuclear Power Plant

Docket No. 50-354

Subject: ISSUANCE OF FINAL SIGNIFICANCE DETERMINATION

This is to inform the Commission that one White Significance Determination Process finding will be issued on or around February 28, 2005, to PSEG Nuclear, LLC, as a result of inspections at Hope Creek Nuclear Power Plant. This White finding involved inadequate evaluation and corrective action for a degraded level control valve for the 'A' moisture separator drain tank. Specifically, the valve had been malfunctioning for several weeks prior to the event, causing the moisture separator drain system to operate outside its design. This condition resulted in a pipe failure in a moisture separator drain line on October 10, 2004. In addition to the inadequate evaluation of the level control valve malfunction, engineers also did not properly consider a similar occurrence from 1988. There were no violations of regulatory requirements identified because the main turbine and extraction steam systems are not safety-related, and therefore, not subject to the corrective action requirement of 10 CFR 50 Appendix B.

It should be noted that the licensee has not been specifically informed of the regulatory action. The schedule of issuance and notification is:

Mailing of Final Significance Determination February 28, 2005
Telephone Notification of Licensee February 28, 2005

The State of New Jersey will be informed.

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