

H. Miller

From: "Dave Lochbaum" <dlochbaurn@ucsusa.org>
To: <hjm1@nrc.gov>
Date: 3/9/04 10:11AM
Subject: Allegations regarding Salem / Hope Creek Safety Culture

Dear Mr. Miller:

Attached is an electronic copy of a letter being mailed to you today. UCS is alleging that PSEG violated 10 CFR 50.9 in its February 27, 2004, response to NRC. We are providing results from the recent Synergy survey - marked "PSEG Confidential" - as evidence of this violation. PSEG mentioned the survey in its response, but failed to discuss the results either qualitatively or quantitatively. 50.9 requires information to be complete and accurate, not just one of the above.

We are also submitting the safety culture survey conducted last year at Davis-Besse. The PSEG results are worse.

This site under this management has a history of promising corrective actions that it cannot or will not meet, thus venturing along a series of plans that do not produce a successful outcome - a "don't loop" if you will. Their reaction to your January 28th letter was predictable - as is their expected inability to follow-up with substantive actions.

We think the NRC should issue an order to PSEG requiring the company to demonstrate tangible improvement in its safety culture, particularly its corrective action program and Employee Concerns Program, within six months. If signs of improvement are not evident in six months, all three reactors should be shut down until progress is made.

If PSEG is sincere - this time - then the six month milestone should be no barrier to them. If PSEG is insincere or PSEG is sincere but incapable, then the six month milestone is a reasonable "probation" period.

The NRC order would have a significant positive impact on the workers at Salem and Hope Creek. Right now, they are under the gun. The non-union workers have performance clauses - they must satisfy their bosses or lose their careers. Senior management, which gave the workers the broken corrective action process, is currently unaccountable. The NRC's order would give senior management a performance clause, too. It would then be in everyone's interest at PSEG to work together to solve these problems.

Thanks,

CC: <arb@nrc.gov>, <djv@nrc.gov>, <GWM@nrc.gov>

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