

Planned Approach for Response to Green Ticket G20040385

(UCS Letter Regarding Safety Culture Problems at Salem/Hope Creek)

Background

In a letter dated June 9, 2004, UCS suggested that the NRC Order the shutdown of the PSEG Hope Creek and Salem units. In the alternative, UCS suggested, as a minimum, that the NRC Order PSEG to demonstrate tangible improvements in its safety culture and plant physical condition within an explicit time frame. UCS reiterated its request following a public meeting that the NRC held with PSEG on June 16, 2004. That meeting was held to discuss the results of three PSEG contracted assessments of the work environment (including the Corrective Action Program and Work Management Process), as well as the PSEG improvement plans (PSEG expects to submit to the NRC a description of its plans by June 25, 2004).

On June 17, 2004, Region 1 and HQ staff, including NRR personnel and the OE Agency Allegation Advisor, caucused to review the PSEG presentation and discuss possible NRC action as well as planned NRC monitoring and follow-up.

EVS

At the NRC June 17 caucus, the UCS June 9, 2004 letter was also discussed. Although the UCS letter appears to fit the criteria for a 2.206 petition, UCS, in an email to Randy Blough, Region 1, on June 10, 2004, specifically stated that it does not view its recommendation as a request under 10 CFR 2.206 for enforcement action and hoped that the NRC would not construe the letter as such. NRR and OGC were consulted and recommended honoring the UCS request to not treat the letter as a 2.206.

EVS

Attached is the proposed timeline for providing the response to the UCS' June 9 letter.


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in accordance with the Freedom of Information
Act, exemptions 5
FOIA- 2005-194

Q-2

ATTACHMENT

PLANNED APPROACH FOR RESPONDING TO UCS JUNE 9, 2004 LETTER

- Completed NRC/PSEG Public Meeting on Work Environment 06/16
- Completed Internal NRC Region I/HQ caucus to discuss 06/17
PSEG assessment results and improvement plans
NRC followup action and planned monitoring
- Obtain PSEG Action Plan Description Submittal 06/25
- Inform UCS (verbal or email) that the NRC will 07/02
Honor its request to not treat the UCS letter as a
2.206 request, but will provide UCS a written
response to its request



Exemption 5