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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

February 28, 2008

Mr. William Levis
President & Chief Nuclear Officer
PSEG Nuclear LLC-N09
Post Office Box 236
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

SUBJECT: HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION - TRANSMITTAL OF DRAFT SAFETY
EVALUATION WITHOUT STEAM DRYER INPUT - EXTENDED POWER
UPRATE (TAC NO. MD3002)

Dear Mr. Levis:

By letter dated September 18, 2006, as supplemented by letters dated October 10 and October 20, 2006; February 14, February 16, February 28, March 13 (2 letters), March 22, March 30 (2 letters), April 13, April 18, April 30, May 10, May 18 (3 letters), May 24, June 22, July 12, August 3, August 17 (2 letters), August 27, August 31, September 11, October 10, October 23, November 15, November 30, and December 31, 2007; January 14, January 15, January 16, January 18, January 25, and January 30, 2008; PSEG Nuclear, LLC (PSEG or the licensee) submitted a proposed license amendment to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for the Hope Creek Generating Station (Hope Creek).

The proposed amendment would increase the authorized maximum power level by approximately 15 percent, from the current licensed thermal power of 3,339 megawatts thermal (MWt) to 3,840 MWt. The proposed increase in power level is considered an extended power uprate.

Enclosed is the draft safety evaluation (SE) without the steam dryer input that the NRC staff has prepared to support the proposed Hope Creek EPU license amendment. The draft SE is being withheld from public disclosure at this time, because it contains proprietary information pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* Section 2.390. The NRC staff has made some preliminary proprietary markings in the draft SE identified by text enclosed within double brackets. However, the staff believes that not all proprietary text has been marked. The staff requests that PSEG provide comments regarding the proprietary content in the draft SE by March 6, 2008. Comments may also be provided regarding the factual accuracy of the information in the draft SE.

**The Enclosure transmitted herewith
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W. Levis

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The response time frame was discussed with Mr. Jeff Keenan of your staff on February 14, 2008. If circumstances result in the need to revise your response date, or if you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-3100.

Sincerely,



John G. Lamb, Senior Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch I-2
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-354

Enclosure: As stated

cc w/o Enclosure: See next page

Hope Creek Generating Station

cc:

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Sincerely,

/ra/

John G. Lamb, Senior Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch I-2
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
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