

June 30, 2008

Mr. Britt T. McKinney
Sr. Vice President and Chief Nuclear Officer
PPL Susquehanna, LLC
769 Salem Blvd., NUCSB3
Berwick, PA 18603-0467

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR THE REVIEW OF THE
SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2, LICENSE
RENEWAL APPLICATION

Dear Mr. McKinney:

By letter dated September 13, 2006, PPL Susquehanna, LLC submitted an application pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulation* Part 54 (10 CFR Part 54), to renew the operating licenses for Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Units 1 and 2, for review by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or the staff). The staff is reviewing the information contained in the license renewal application and has identified, in the enclosure, areas where additional information is needed to complete the review. Further requests for additional information may be issued in the future.

Items in the enclosure were discussed with Duane Filchner, and a mutually agreeable date for the response is within 30 days from the date of this letter. If you have any questions, please contact me at 301-415-4029 or e-mail evelyn.gettys@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

\RA\

Evelyn Gettys, Project Manager
Projects Branch 1
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-387 and 50-388

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/encl: See next page

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SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2
LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION
REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (RAI)

RAI-B.2.12-1

In the license renewal application (LRA), the aging management program (AMP) B.2.12, "Bolting Integrity Program" is not clear in how it satisfies the generic aging lessons learned (GALL) Report Section X1.M18 program element "monitoring and trending." Specifically, the element requires bolting connections for pressure retaining components (not covered by ASME Section XI) to be "inspected daily. If the leak rate does not increase, the inspection frequency may be decreased to biweekly or weekly." Susquehanna Steam Electric Station (SSES) credits their System Walkdown Program for meeting this inspection frequency. However, it was not readily apparent how this is achieved. Please provide detailed plans for inspection frequency which satisfy this GALL element.

RAI-B.2.12-2

In the LRA, the AMP B.2.12, "Bolting Integrity Program" is stated to be consistent with the GALL Report with no exceptions or enhancements to the GALL Report program element "corrective actions." For this program element, GALL recommends the use of EPRI NP-5769 as guidance. However, SSES previously stated in their LRA that the "Bolting Integrity Program does not explicitly address the guidelines outlined in EPRI NP-5769, or as delineated in NUREG-1339." Instead, they rely on recommendations contained in EPRI documents NP-5067 and TR-104213. Please consider noting the possible exception to the corrective actions element and provide the basis for the exception.

RAI-B.2.12-3

In the LRA, the applicant states that the AMP B.2.12 "Bolting Integrity Program" is consistent with the bolting recommendations identified in the GALL Program Section XI.M18, but does not directly reference EPRI NP-5769 or NUREG-1339 as applicable source documents for these recommendations. However, during the AMP audit, the staff noted that the SSES procedures do reference and incorporate the bolting practices identified in EPRI NP-5067. EPRI NP-5769 and EPRI NP-5067 are very closely related documents that cross-reference one another and reference NUREG-1339. Please provide clarification on how the guidance in EPRI NP-5067 and EPRI TR-104213 meet the intent of EPRI NP-5769 and NUREG-1339 as identified in GALL AMP XI.M18.

RAI-B.2.12-4

In the LRA, the applicant states that the AMP B.2.12 "Bolting Integrity Program" is consistent with the AMP in the GALL Report AMP XI.M18, with the following exception related to loss of preload. The applicant states that the operating temperature for all other in-scope bolted connections are well below the threshold temperature at which stress relaxation of pressure boundary bolting would occur. Maintenance issues that might result in loss of preload are current plant operational (design) concerns, as supported by site operating experience, and are

ENCLOSURE

not related to aging. The staff finds that the management of loss of preload is also a related item to the GALL Report program element, "preventive maintenance." Proper maintenance practices requiring the application of an appropriate preload must exist. Please provide information on existing maintenance procedures which manage the proper torque on bolts, and the application of an appropriate preload.

RAI-B.2.15-1

In the LRA, the AMP B.2.15, "Crane Inspection Program" is stated to be consistent with the GALL Report with no exceptions and no enhancements. Upon review of the program basis document, it was found that SSES does not explicitly identify "the effects of wear on the rails in the rail system" in their basis document for the GALL Report program element, "Scope of Program." Please clarify this discrepancy, and provide the technical basis if this is actually intended to be an exception.

RAI-B.2.15-2

In the LRA, the AMP B.2.15, "Crane Inspection Program" is stated to be consistent with GALL with no exceptions and no enhancements. Upon review of the program basis document, it was found that SSES does not explicitly identify "wear" in their basis document for the GALL Report program element, "Acceptance Criteria." Please clarify this discrepancy, and provide the technical basis if this is actually intended to be an exception.

RAI-B.2.15-3

In the LRA, the AMP B.2.15, "Crane Inspection Program" is stated to have no age-related degradation problems in their operating experience. However, an "unsatisfactory" condition designation on a structural item was found in the review of the operating experience. This work order (#847534- M1031-02 "Pre-Use Hoist Inspection (1H209)") includes a description of a possible crack in a weld approximately 2"-3" long. Please clarify the incident, describe any follow up inspections, and any corrective actions made.

Letter to B. McKinney from E. Gettys, dated June 30, 2008

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RENEWAL APPLICATION

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