

**From:** Rick Ennis  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 04, 2008 11:28 AM  
**To:** Jeff Keenan  
**Cc:** John McHale; Gurjendra Bedi; Christine Neely  
**Subject:** Acceptance Review for TACs MD9336 and MD9337 - Relief Request and Amendment Request Concerning Snubbers

Jeff,

By letter dated July 30, 2008 (ADAMS Accession No. ML082200316), PSEG Nuclear LLC submitted relief request HC-13R-04 (Alternate Testing and Examination Requirements for Snubbers) and an associated license amendment request for Hope Creek Generating Station. The proposed amendment would relocate Technical Specification requirements for snubbers to the Technical Requirements Manual. The purpose of this e-mail is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of these requests. The acceptance review was performed to determine if there is sufficient technical information in scope and depth to allow the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review. The acceptance review is also intended to identify whether the application has any readily apparent information insufficiencies in its characterization of the regulatory requirements or the licensing basis of the plant.

Consistent with Section 50.90 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), an amendment to the license (including the technical specifications) must fully describe the changes requested, and following as far as applicable, the form prescribed for original applications. Section 50.34 of 10 CFR addresses the content of technical information required. This section stipulates that the submittal address the design and operating characteristics, unusual or novel design features, and principal safety considerations.

Pursuant to Sections 50.55a(a)(3)(i) and 50.55a(a)(3)(ii) of 10 CFR, the applicant shall demonstrate that the proposed alternatives would provide an acceptable level of quality and safety, or that compliance with the specified requirements of Section 50.55a would result in hardship or unusual difficulty without a compensating increase in the level of quality or safety.

The NRC staff has reviewed your application and concluded that it does provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the staff to proceed with its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed relief request and proposed amendment in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment. If additional information is needed for the staff to complete its technical review, you will be advised by separate correspondence.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-1420.

Richard B. Ennis, Senior Project Manager  
Plant Licensing Branch I-2  
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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