



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0601

November 21, 2012

Mr. Timothy S. Rausch
Senior Vice President and Chief Nuclear Officer
PPL Susquehanna, LLC
769 Salem Boulevard
Berwick, PA 18603-0467

SUBJECT: SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2 –
ACCEPTANCE OF REQUESTED LICENSING ACTION RE: EXEMPTION
REQUEST FROM THE BIENNIAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS EXERCISE
REQUIREMENTS OF 10 CFR 50, APPENDIX E, SECTION IV.F.2.b (TAC NOS.
ME9845 AND ME9846)

Dear Mr. Rausch:

By letter dated October 25, 2012,¹ PPL Susquehanna, LLC, (PPL) submitted an exemption request from the requirements of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 50, Appendix E, Section IV.F.2.b. for Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Units 1 and 2 (SSES 1 and 2). Specifically, PPL requests postponement of the evaluation of the onsite elements of the SSES 1 and 2 biennial Emergency Preparedness exercise from October 23, 2012 to February 26, 2013. The purpose of this letter is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of this exemption request. 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.

Pursuant to Section 50.12(a) of 10 CFR, the NRC may, upon application by any interested person or upon its own initiative, grant exemptions from the requirements of the regulations of this part, which are authorized by law, will not present an undue risk to the public health and safety, and are consistent with the common defense and security. However, the NRC will not consider granting an exemption unless special circumstances are present.

By letter dated November 6, 2012,² the NRC staff identified several informational needs that were necessary to enable the staff to make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed exemption in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment. By letter dated November 16, 2012,³ you provided a supplement to your submittal.

The NRC staff has found the supplement responsive to the staff's cited information needs, and concludes that the application and supplemental information provide technical information in

¹ Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML12300A108.

² ADAMS Accession No. ML12310A208

³ ADAMS Accession No. ML12324A249

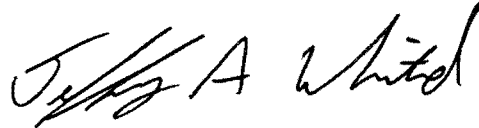
T. Rausch

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sufficient detail to enable the staff to proceed with its detailed technical review. If additional information is needed for the NRC staff to complete its technical review, you will be advised by separate correspondence.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-4090.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey A. Whited". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "J".

Jeffrey A. Whited, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch I-2
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-387 and 50-388

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Sincerely,

/RA/

Jeffrey A. Whited, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch I-2
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-387 and 50-388

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