

June 17, 2014

Mr. James Mallon
Early Site Permit Manager
PSEG Power, LLC
244 Chestnut Street
Salem, NJ 08079

SUBJECT: CHANGE IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCHEDULE OF PSEG SITE EARLY SITE PERMIT APPLICATION REVIEW

Dear Mr. Mallon:

On August 4, 2010, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) docketed the PSEG Site Early Site Permit (ESP) application, (Agencywide Documents Access and Management Systems (ADAMS) Accession Number ML102010714), submitted by PSEG Power, LLC, and PSEG Nuclear, LLC (PSEG). On September 12, 2013, the NRC staff issued a letter (ML12361A136) providing the updated schedule, which reflected new safety and environmental review milestones. In that letter, the NRC staff informed PSEG that other agency priorities, specifically, waste confidence and Fukushima-related activities, were expected to have some effect on projected staff availability over the remainder of the environmental review.

On April 30, 2014, PSEG submitted a request for exemption from the hydrology storm surge analysis required by Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), Part 52.17(a)(1)(vi) (ML14134A205). The proposed exemption would authorize deferral of the performance of the final analysis for the maximum probable storm surge flooding hazard at the PSEG Site until such time that PSEG submits a combined license (COL) application. The staff is addressing this exemption request in a separate letter.

Regarding the schedule for completion of the draft environmental impact statement (EIS), the NRC management met to discuss allocation of critical skill resources to a growing list of agency high priority activities. The outcome of these discussions resulted in a decision to move a significant amount of critical Agency resources from the Office of New Reactors (NRO) to other Agency offices to support the completion of high priority activities such as the waste confidence effort and Fukushima licensing reviews. The movement of the NRO resources will have a minor affect on the NRC's completion of the environmental review on the current schedule. The new review schedule reflects the effects of the resource allocation decisions discussed above. If additional resources needed to complete the NRC staff's development of the draft EIS for the PSEG Site ESP application become available or work priorities change, the NRC staff will strive to mitigate the delays assumed in the revised environmental review schedule.

J. Mallon

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The revised schedule for the environmental portion of the PSEG Site ESP application review is enclosed. Please note that the environmental review schedule could be extended as a result of stakeholder input and engagement that may occur between the draft and final versions of the EIS. As always, the NRC will consider any opportunity that may allow us to complete the review ahead of the enclosed schedule.

For questions regarding the environmental schedule, please contact the NRC Lead Environmental Project Manager, Dr. Allen Fetter at 301-415-8556 or via e-mail to Allen.Fetter@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Frank Akstulewicz, Director
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

Docket No.: 52-043

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/encl: See next page

J. Mallon

- 2 -

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For questions regarding the environmental schedule, please contact the NRC Lead Environmental Project Manager, Dr. Allen Fetter at 301-415-8556 or via e-mail to Allen.Fetter@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Frank Akstulewicz, Director
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

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As stated

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ADAMS Accession No.: ML14147A385 *via e-mail
see previous concurrence **NRO-002

OFFICE	DNRL/EPB:PM	DNRL/EPB:LA	DNRL/EPB:BC	OGC: NLO
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DATE	05/29/2014	06/17/2014		

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PSEG Site Early Site Permit Application Review Schedule

Key Milestones	Current Completion Date Actual – A Target – T	Revised Completion Date Actual – A Target – T
<i>Environmental Review</i>		
Phase 1 - Scoping period ends	12/2010-A	12/2010-A
Phase 2 - Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) issued to U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	06/2014-T	09/2014-T
Phase 3 - Public comment period for Draft EIS ends	08/2014-T	11/2014-T
Phase 4 - Final EIS issued to EPA	05/2015-T	09/2015-T

ESP - PSEG Mailing List

(Revised 05/06/2014)

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