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Environmental Protection Plan 5.4.1

LR-N15-0096

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United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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Washington, DC 20555

Hope Creek Generating Station
Renewed Facility Operating License No. NPF-57
NRC Docket No. 50-354

Subject: 2014 ANNUAL ENVIRONMENTAL OPERATING REPORT

The enclosed 2014 Annual Environmental Operating Report is hereby submitted pursuant to Subsection 5.4.1 of the Environmental Protection Plan (non-radiological) for Hope Creek Generating Station. The Environmental Protection Plan is Appendix B to the Renewed Facility Operating License NPF-57 (Docket No. 50-354).

There are no regulatory commitments in this correspondence.

If you have any questions or comments on this transmittal, please contact Helen Gregory, Environmental Compliance Manager - Nuclear at (856) 339-1341.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Carr", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Eric Carr
Hope Creek Plant Manager

pjd

Enclosure: 2014 Annual Environmental Operating Report

cc: Mr. Daniel Dorman, Regional Administrator – NRC Region I

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Environmental Protection Plan 5.4.1

2014 ANNUAL ENVIRONMENTAL OPERATING REPORT
(NON-RADIOLOGICAL)
January 1 through December 31, 2014

HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION
DOCKET NO. 50-354
RENEWED OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-57

PSEG NUCLEAR LLC
P.O. BOX 236
HANCOCKS BRIDGE, NEW JERSEY 08038

Dated: APRIL 2015

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

This 2014 Annual Environmental Operating Report (AEOR) for the Hope Creek Generating Station was prepared in accordance with Subsection 5.4.1 of Appendix B to Facility Operating License No. NPF-57, Environmental Protection Plan (Non-radiological). The reporting requirements of the Environmental Protection Plan (EPP) became effective April 11, 1986, with the issuance of the initial Hope Creek Operating License (NPF-57).

This is the thirtieth AEOR submitted for Hope Creek Generating Station. It corresponds to the reporting period January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014. Hope Creek Generating Station produced 10,406,057 megawatt-hours of net electrical energy during this period.

As required by Subsection 5.4.1 of the EPP, we have included summaries and analyses of all required environmental protection activities. This information is described in Section 2.0. Section 3.0 addresses the issue of EPP compliance. Changes to station design or operation and the review for potentially significant un-reviewed environmental questions are addressed in Section 4.0. Administrative review procedures and unusual and/or important environmental events are discussed in Section 5.0.

2.0 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACTIVITIES

2.1 AQUATIC ISSUES

Subsection 4.2.1 of the EPP references the Clean Water Act as the mechanism for protecting aquatic biota through water quality monitoring. The United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission (USNRC) relies upon the State of New Jersey, acting under the authority of the Clean Water Act, to ensure applicable requirements for aquatic monitoring are implemented. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) is the state's regulatory agency.

The state of New Jersey requires as part of their New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NJPDES) permit program that effluent monitoring be performed, with the results summarized and submitted monthly on Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) forms. The monitoring is intended to determine compliance with the permit for effluent limitations (NJPDES No. NJ0025411). We have reviewed the DMR's corresponding to the 2014 AEOR reporting period and have determined that one (1) deviation occurred. In the May DMR it was reported that the daily maximum for the Total Petroleum Hydrocarbon (TPH) parameter exceeded the permit limit. The USNRC was previously copied on this DMR exceedance report. Copies of monthly DMR's are routinely sent to USNRC's Document Control Desk and additional copies are available upon request.

On February 2, 2011, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) issued a Final New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NJPDES) Permit that authorizes the continued discharge of cooling tower blowdown and other effluents from the Hope Creek Generating Station to the Delaware River. The Permit was effective on July 1, 2011 and contains conditions and limitations for continued compliance with the federal and state Clean Water Act (CWA) and the NJDEP's regulations.

While the NRC relies on the State of New Jersey for protection of the water quality, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) maintains regulatory authority with respect to certain migratory threatened and endangered aquatic species. On May 15, 1993 the NMFS issued a revised Section 7 Consultation, Biological Opinion. The revision removed all requirements for marine life monitoring at the Hope Creek Generating Station. This revision was incorporated into the Facility Operating License No. NPF-57 through Amendment No. 60.

NMFS issued a revised Incidental Take Statement (ITS) in January 1999 which served to amend the May 1993 Opinion. The 1999 revisions did not impact Hope Creek Generating Station, but this version of the ITS remains in effect.

2.2 TERRESTRIAL ISSUES

PSEG NUCLEAR LLC has satisfied the commitments under this requirement. No further monitoring is required pursuant to sec 4.2.2 of the EPP.

3.0 EPP COMPLIANCE STATUS

3.1 EPP NONCOMPLIANCES

Subsection 5.4.1 of the EPP requires a list of EPP non-compliances and the corrective actions taken to remedy them. No previously un-reviewed environmental impacts attributable to the operation of the Hope Creek Generating Station were observed during 2014. Likewise, there were no instances of noncompliance with the EPP.

3.2 REVIEW

Subsection 5.1 of the EPP for Hope Creek Generating Station requires that an independent review of compliance with the EPP be maintained and made available for inspection. Compliance with the EPP was reviewed as part of the QA Assessment Program in 2014. No substantive findings were identified and a copy of the review is available for inspection.

4.0 CHANGES IN STATION DESIGN OR OPERATION

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 3.1 of the EPP, station design/operational changes during the time period covered by this report were reviewed for potential environmental impact. None of the recommended changes posed a potential to significantly affect the environment, and therefore, none involved an un-reviewed environmental question or a change in the EPP.

5.0 NONROUTINE REPORTS

5.1 2014 NONROUTINE REPORTS

Subsection 5.4.1 of the EPP requires that a list of non-routine reports (submitted in accordance with Subsection 5.4.2 of the EPP) be included as part of the Annual Operating Environmental Report.

Hope Creek Generating Station experienced no unusual or important events, in accordance with Subsection 4.1 of the EPP that indicated or could have resulted in a "significant environmental impact" during the 2014 reporting period.

5.2 ONGOING ISSUES FROM PREVIOUS NONROUTINE REPORTS

A Preliminary Assessment and Site Investigation Report (PA/SIR) was submitted to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) on June 25, 2014 documenting the remediation activities for a discharge that occurred at Hope Creek Generating Station on July 1, 2013. This discharge was previously reported in the 2013 AEOR report and occurred when two gallons of oily water from a secondary containment catch basin overflowed into a storm drain that flows to the Delaware River.

Copies of the report for the above remediation activities are available upon request.