



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

November 13, 2015

Mr. Jon A. Franke  
Site Vice President  
Susquehanna Nuclear, LLC  
769 Salem Boulevard  
NUCSB3  
Berwick, PA 18603-0467

SUBJECT: SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2 – REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING PROPOSED RELIEF REQUESTS FOR THE THIRD 10-YEAR INSERVICE INSPECTION INTERVAL (CAC NOS. MF6302 THROUGH MF6307)

Dear Mr. Franke:

By letter dated May 28, 2015 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML15148A774), Susquehanna Nuclear, LLC (the licensee) requested the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to authorize relief from the requirements of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code. The proposed relief requests are associated with the third 10-year inservice inspection interval. The relief requests pertain to the examination coverage of the welds at the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Units 1 and 2.

The NRC staff determined that the licensee's relief requests (Nos. 3RR-19, 3RR-20, and 3RR-21), and basis for relief that supports the change requested did not include sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposal in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety. The NRC staff requested supplemental information, dated July 10, 2015 (ADAMS Accession No. ML15183A396), to complete its review. In response to the NRC staff's request, the licensee replaced its May 28, 2015, submittal in its entirety with letter submittal dated August 6, 2015 (ADAMS Accession No. ML15233A089).

The NRC staff has reviewed the information submitted by the licensee, and based on this review, determined additional information is required to complete the assessment of the relief requests. Enclosed is copy of the NRC staff's request for additional information. The draft questions were sent to Mr. Richard McIntosh to ensure that they were understandable, the regulatory basis for the questions was clear, and to determine if the information was previously docketed. Please respond to the enclosure within 30 days of the date of this letter.

J. Franke

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If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-4090 or [Jeffrey.White@nrc.gov](mailto:Jeffrey.White@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Jeffrey A. Whited in black ink.

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

Enclosure:  
Request for Additional Information

cc w/enclosure: Distribution via Listserv

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION  
OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION  
RELIEF REQUESTS NUMBERS 3RR-19, 3RR-20, AND 3RR-21  
SUSQUEHANNA NUCLEAR, LLC  
ALLEGHENY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.  
SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2  
DOCKET NOS. 50-387 AND 50-388

By letter dated May 28, 2015,<sup>1</sup> Susquehanna Nuclear, LLC (the licensee)<sup>2</sup> requested the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to authorize relief from the requirements of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code. The proposed relief requests are associated with the third 10-year inservice inspection (ISI) interval. The relief requests pertain to the examination coverage of the welds at the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station (SSES), Units 1 and 2.

The NRC staff determined that the licensee's relief requests (Nos. 3RR-19, 3RR-20, and 3RR-21), and basis for relief that supports the change requested, did not include sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposal in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety. The NRC staff requested supplemental information, dated July 10, 2015,<sup>3</sup> to complete its review. In response to the NRC request, the licensee replaced the May 28, 2015, submittal in its entirety with letter submittal dated August 6, 2015<sup>4</sup>.

The NRC staff determined that the following additional information is required to complete its review of the relief requests.

**RAI 1**

In Relief Request No. 3RR-20, the achieved examination coverage for weld DG-DH is 7.7 percent for SSES, Unit 1, during the third 10-year ISI interval. The NRC staff notes that the DG-DH achieved examination coverage is 23.7 percent for both SSES units for all previous 10-Year ISI Intervals for this weld. Please explain why the achieved examination coverage decreased from 23.7 percent to 7.7 percent for weld DG-DH for SSES, Unit 1, during the third 10-year ISI interval.

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<sup>1</sup> Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML15148A774.

<sup>2</sup> PPL Susquehanna, LLC submitted this relief request. However, on June 1, 2014, the NRC staff issued an amendment changing the name of the licensee for the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Units 1 and 2, from PPL Susquehanna, LLC to Susquehanna Nuclear, LLC.

<sup>3</sup> ADAMS Accession No. ML15183A396.

<sup>4</sup> ADAMS Accession No. ML15233A089.

Enclosure

J. Franke

- 2 -

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-4090 or [Jeffrey.White@nrc.gov](mailto:Jeffrey.White@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

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

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**ADAMS Accession No.: ML15316A563**

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