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 AUTH. NAME AUTHOR AFFILIATION
 CURTIS, N.W. PENNSYLVANIA POWER & LIGHT CO.
 RECIP. NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
 REGAN, W.H. ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT BRANCH 2

SUBJECT: FORWARDS APPLICATION TO SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION
 ER & DESIGN REPT FOR CONST OF POND HILL RESERVOIR, ER &
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PP&L

TWO NORTH NINTH STREET, ALLENTOWN, PA. 18101 PHONE: (215) 821-5151

NORMAN W. CURTIS
Vice President-Engineering & Construction
821-5381

March 6, 1979

Mr. William H. Regan, Jr., Chief
Environmental Projects Branch 2
Division of Site Safety and Environmental Analysis
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION
POND HILL RESERVOIR INFORMATION
ER 100450 PLA-330 FILE 991-2

DOCKET NOS. 50-387
AND 50-388

Dear Mr. Regan:

In response to Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC) regulations requiring low flow augmentation, PP&L is planning to construct the Pond Hill Reservoir. The application for this reservoir was submitted to SRBC on March 6, 1979.

Enclosed for your information, are two copies of the application to SRBC, the Environmental Report and the Design Report for the Pond Hill Reservoir. The Pond Hill Environmental Report will be submitted as an amendment to the Susquehanna Environmental Report-Operating License Stage in the near future.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please let me know.

Very truly yours,



N. W. Curtis
Project Director-Susquehanna

WEB:jm
Enclosures

7903270 391

None
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A 1/20

BEFORE THE
SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

In re: Application of Pennsylvania :
Power & Light Company on its behalf :
and on behalf of Allegheny Electric :
Cooperative, Inc. for review of pro- :
ject designed to provide low flow :
augmentation for consumptive water :
use at the Susquehanna Steam Electric :
Station, Salem Township, Luzerne :
County, Pennsylvania. :

TO THE COMMISSION:

1. Applicant is Pennsylvania Power & Light Company (PP&L), Two North Ninth Street, Allentown, Pennsylvania 18101.
2. Applicant is acting for itself and for Allegheny Electric Cooperative, Inc. (AE), 212 Locust Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17101.
3. Applicant's attorney is John Antonuk, Two North Ninth Street, Allentown, Pennsylvania 18101.
4. PP&L and AE are owners as tenants in common of 90% (PP&L) and 10% (AE) undivided interests in the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Units #1 and #2.
5. PP&L is a corporation formed under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and is engaged, *inter alia*, in the business of furnishing electricity to the public in twenty-nine counties in central eastern Pennsylvania.
6. AE is an electric cooperative association incorporated under the provisions of the Pennsylvania Electric Cooperative Corporation

Act, Act of June 21, 1937, P.L. 1969, and is engaged in the business of furnishing electricity to its members, all cooperatives, for resale in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

7. PP&L and AE are not affiliated with one another.

8. The Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Units #1 and #2, (SSES) is a two-unit nuclear fired electricity generating station currently being constructed near the western bank of the Susquehanna River in Salem Township, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania.

9. When both of the above-described units (each with a nominal capability of 1050 megawatts) are generating electricity, their average consumptive use of water from the Susquehanna River, for cooling purposes, will be 50 cubic feet per second.

10. PP&L has for several years been exploring alternative means of compensating for such consumptive use during periods of low flow (now defined at 18 C.F.R. §803.61) in the Susquehanna River.

11. As part of the above-described exploration PP&L has, *inter alia*, discussed with the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District (Corps), the possibility of purchasing water storage from the Corps' Cowanesque Lake multi-purpose reservoir project located on the Cowanesque River in Tioga County, Pennsylvania.

12. In response to those discussions and at the request of the Susquehanna River Basin Commission, the Corps has proposed a study of the full range of water supply potential at Cowanesque Lake.

13. Because of uncertainty over the time required to complete such a study, Cowanesque Lake cannot presently be considered as an alternative for providing low flow augmentation for consumptive water use at SSES.

14. To the extent, however, that such a study could be satisfactorily concluded before irrevocable and substantial economic and environmental commitments are made to the presently proposed method for developing low flow augmentation capability, PP&L would consider the use of Cowanesque Lake as a method of developing such capability.

15. The presently proposed method of developing low flow augmentation capability is by means of a reservoir project (termed the Pond Hill Reservoir) located on a small, unnamed east bank tributary of the Susquehanna River, approximately 7 miles northeast of the Borough of Berwick and one mile south of the village of Mocanaqua.

16. Pond Hill Reservoir's proposed 10,100 acre-feet of active storage will be sufficient to provide required flow augmentation should the most severe drought of record recur.

17. The pertinent location, design and operational features of the reservoir are detailed in Application Exhibit "A" titled "Design Report - Pond Hill Reservoir" which exhibit is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

18. A description of the impacts of the proposed reservoir upon the environment (including social and economic impacts), a description of the present environment of the site and its vicinity, and a discussion of low flow augmentation alternatives considered are contained

in Application Exhibit "B" titled "Environmental Report - Pond Hill Reservoir", which exhibit is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

19. Of the present alternatives explored and considered in detail, the Pond Hill Reservoir represents the most feasible, from a combined environmental, operational and economic perspective, for providing low flow augmentation for consumptive water use at SSES.

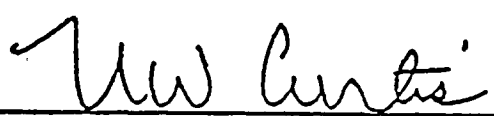
20. Present schedules establish an in-service date for augmentation operation of the Pond Hill Reservoir sometime during the summer of 1983 (assuming necessary government approvals and permits are received by January, 1981), which is the date upon and after which PP&L can and will begin to comply with requirements to augment Susquehanna River flows at periods of low flow defined in 18 C.F.R. §803.61; provided that the Susquehanna River Basin Commission should determine such date to be a reasonable time for compliance in light of the progress in planning and construction of the SSES and the exploration of low flow augmentation alternatives by PP&L to comply with §803.61 requirements.

21. Costs for the project as described in Exhibits "A" and "B" will be paid by PP&L and AE in shares proportionate to their undivided interest in SSES.

WHEREFORE, Pennsylvania Power & Light Company requests that the Susquehanna River Basin Commission review the Pond Hill Reservoir project pursuant to its compact and the regulations issued thereunder,

issue its approval of such project as a means of satisfying the requirements of 18 C.F.R. §803.61, set July 31, 1983 as the date, under 18 C.F.R. §803.61(f), after which the requirements of the section apply, and issue such other approvals as may be necessary or proper under the instant project review.

PENNSYLVANIA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY
By:



Norman W. Curtis - Vice President
Engineering & Construction

Dated March 6, 1979 at
Allentown, Pennsylvania