

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

JUN 2 5 1980

LADE

Docket Nos. 50-463 and 50-464

> Philadelphia Electric Company ATTN: Mr. J. L. Everatt, President 2301 Market Street Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19101

Gentlmen:

On December 29, 1978, the application of Philadelphia Electric Company to construct a nuclear power plant at the Fulton Site was amended to seek only an adjudicatory early site suitability review. The NRC staff considered the amended application and informally advised Mr. George Hunger of your staff early in 1979 that the application was not acceptable to docket because of deficiencies in the discussion of alternative sites and thus the staff did not initiate a detailed review.

In order for your application for an early site review to be acceptable for docketing, the discussion of alternative sites should be expanded in accordance with the new guidance set forth in the Proposed Rule on Alternative Site Reviews (45 F.R. 24168, April 9, 1980). The principal defect in the submittal is that the selected region of interest fails to meet diversity criteria as set forth in the rule. The staff also needs responses to other questions on alternative sites listed in the enclosure.

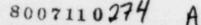
In the event that you wish to pursue your early site suitability review application to docketing, we require that you provide responses to the questions concerning alternative sites provided in the enclosure. If you intend to pursue your application, please advise me of your schedule for submitting the required information.

Sincerely,

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James R. Miller, Chief Standardization and Special Projects Branch Division of Licensing Office of Nculear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure: Questions cc: See attached sheet



Philadelphic Electric Company

cc: Mr. Hugh K. Clark, Chairman P. O. Box 127A Kennedyville, MD 21645

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ENCLOSURE

QUESTIONS REGARDING ALTERNATIVE SITES

- According to the Proposed Rule, Section V, 3 (FR 45; 24168, April 9, 1980), the region of interest should be chosen so as to provide a diversity of water sources. This criterion could be met by expanding the proposed region of interest about 30 miles to the east and south to include the coastal areas of Delaware Bay and the Atlantic Ocean. Potential sites near these water sources should be included in the alternative site review.
- The alternative site review should include consideration of placing additional reactor units at existing reactor sites, for example, at Hope Creek, Salem, Summit and Peach Bottom. Review these alternatives according to the procedures described in the Proposed Rule.
- 3. The discussion in the ESER of alternative sites along the Susquehanna is too brief to permit the staff to independently evaluate their candidacy. These sites include Michael's Run, Peach Bottom, Broad Creek, Berkeley, Erb's Mill, Fishing Creek, Muddy Run and Conowingo Creek. More detail should be provided for each site, using all of the criteria listed in the Proposed Rule, Section VI, 2.
- 4. Explain why the transmission line corridor shown in Figure 9.2-2 of the ER passing near the Tohickon site and labelled, "To Branchburg Public Service Electric and Gas Co.", cannot be used for a plant at Tohickon or at other nearby possible alternative sites: New Hope and Washington's Crossing. How would this affect transmission costs?
- 5. Explain the problems of using make-up water for the Chester County or Ranch sites from the proposed Mason-Dixon pipeline. Are there uncertainties regarding construction of the pipeline or possible use of the water?
- 6. For several potential sites (Seneca Point, Pine Forge, New Hope and Washington's Crossing), the discussions were conclusionary rather than evidentiary. Provide the detail according to all of the criteria listed in the Proposed Rule, Section VI, 2, backing up the conclusions drawn. (For example, explain what is meant by "unsuitable topography", "extensive shoreline erosion", order of magnitude of "high" transmission costs, why the Schuylkill River is not a reliable water source for Pine Forge, and approximate dollar estimates of extra costs for the New Hope site.)
- Explain why some of the alternative sites for the previously proposed Perryman nuclear plant (Evaluation of Alternative Sites - Perryman Early Site Review, NRC, November 1977) were not included in the consideration

of alternative sites for the Fulton plant. Some of these sites are within the region of interest (See Figure A.5, Page A-9 of the Perryman evaluation).

- 8. Provide updated information on the availability of the Bainbridge site for power plant development.
- 9. How does the Region of Interest selected by the applicant relate to the power pool region and electrical reliability council region with which the applicant is associated? Identify any deficient power areas within the region of interest.
- Demonstrate, using available reconnaissance level information in accordance with the guidance in the Proposed Rule, why the 49 pond-lake sites were eliminated as candidate sites.