

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

August 3, 1993

Docket No. 50-354

Mr. Steven E. Miltenberger Vice President and Chief Nuclear Officer Public Service Electric and Gas Company Post Office Box 236 Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey 08038

Dear Mr. Miltenberger:

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION (TAC NO. M85264)

The NRC staff has completed a preliminary review of your license amendment request dated November 19, 1992, and supplemented by letters dated December 29, 1992, and May 28, 1993. This amendment request consists of proposed changes to the Updated Final Safety Analysis Report (UFSAR) for the Hope Creek Generating Station. The changes would revise your UFSAR commitments for the emergency diesel generator (EDG) fuel oil transfer pump start level and fuel oil storage tank capacity. The amendment request was made pursuant to the requirements of 10 CFR 50.59(c) because your evaluation identified the change as unreviewed safety questions. Additional information and clarification is requested, as detailed in the enclosure.

In order for the staff to complete their review, it is requested that the additional information be provided within 30 days of the date of this letter. This requirement affects 9 or fewer respondents and, therefore, is not subject to Office of Management and Budget review under P.L. 96-511.

Sincerely,

Stephen Dembek, Project Manager

Project Directorate I-2

Division of Reactor Projects - I/II Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure: Request for Additional Information

cc w/enclosure: See next page

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9308200223 930803 PDR ADDCK 05000354 Mr. Steven E. Miltenberger Public Service Electric & Gas Company Hope Creek Generating Station

cc:

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Mr. R. Hovey General Manager - Hope Creek Operations Hope Creek Generating Station P.O. Box 236 Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey 08038

Mr. Frank X. Thomson, Jr., Manager Licensing and Regulation Nuclear Department P.O. Box 236 Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey 08038

Regional Administrator, Region I U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission 475 Allendale Road King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

Dr. Jill Lipoti, Asst. Director Radiation Protection Programs NJ Department of Environmental Protection and Energy CN 415 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0415 Mr. J. A. Isabel'i MGR. - Generation Department Atlantic Electric Company Post Office Box 1500 1199 Black Horse Pike Pleasantville, New Jersey 08232

Richard Hartung Electric Service Evaluation Board of Regulatory Commissioners 2 Gateway Center, Tenth Floor Newark, NJ 07102

Lower Alloways Creek Township c/o Mary O. Henderson, Clerk Municipal Building, P.O. Box 157 Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Regarding Day Tank Level

- 1. The day tank currently provides enough fuel for about 30 minutes of EDG operation (instead of one hour as previously committed to) at the point where the fuel transfer pumps begin to replenish the day tank level. It is the staff's view that 30 minutes is not a sufficient time period to allow the operators to respond should a problem develop. The current day tank level setpoint requires the fuel oil transfer pumps to cycle only about once every 90 minutes, which is far less than the vendor's limitation of once every 10 minutes. Therefore, the staff believes that a greater inventory of fuel oil should be maintained in the day tank to provide as much inventory as possible without jeopardizing operability of the fuel oil transfer pumps. Given the vendor's limitation of 10 minutes for the frequency of fuel oil transfer pump operation, allowing the pumps to cycle once every 20 minutes seems appropriate. You are requested to address the staff concern noted above.
- Explain what controls have been established (or are being established) to ensure that operators will readily recognize when a fuel oil transfer pump failure has occurred.
- 3. The Technical Specification requirements for the day tank level (i.e., at least 200 gallons) are currently nonconservative relative to the current assumptions that were credited for the load calculations (based on 248 gallons), and must be changed to be consistent with the minimum level requirements that are ultimately established.

Regarding Fuel Oil Storage Tank Capacity

1. The Technical Specifications require that you maintain at least 48,800 gallons of fuel in each pair of fuel oil storage tanks. Since there is about 2,000 gallons of unusable volume in each fuel oil storage tank, the EDG run time calculations should be based on a usable fuel oil storage volume in each tank-pair of 44,800 gallons. It is not clear to the staff that your calculations are based on this limiting value, and further clarification is required.

Regarding Fuel Oil Transfer Between EDGs

1. You indicated that diesel fuel can be shared between three EDGs to provide 6 days and 16 hours of continuous EDG operation. However, you did not explain specifically how this fuel-sharing scheme will be implemented, what controls have been established to ensure success, what actions have been taken to demonstrate this capability and what limitations and precautions apply. Additionally, you have not stated specifically how

long these three EDGs can operate if this fuel transfer capability is not credited (which represents the current situation). Additional information in this regard is required.

2. You indicated that diesel fuel from the fuel oil storage tanks for the inoperable diesel can be used for the remaining three EDGs. However, you did not explain how this fuel will be transferred to the other EDGs given the specific circumstances that could arise and what contingencies, control, and training are necessary to ensure success given these postulated circumstances. Additional information in this regard is required.

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Vice President and Chief Nuclear
Officer
Public Service Electric and Gas
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Post Office Box 236
Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey 08038

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Sincerely,
Original signed by:
Stephen Dembek, Project Manager
Project Directorate I-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure: Request for Additional Information

cc w/enclosure: See next page

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