



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

February 23, 1994

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: RESPONSE TO NRC BULLETIN 93-03, "RESOLUTION OF ISSUES RELATED TO REACTOR VESSEL WATER LEVEL INSTRUMENTATION IN BWRs," HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION (TAC NO. M86896)

We acknowledge receipt of your response, dated July 30, 1993 and December 28, 1993, to NRC Bulletin (NRCB) 93-03. The NRCB was issued May 28, 1993, to all holders of operating licenses or construction permits for boiling water reactors (BWRs) with the exception of Millstone 1 and Big Rock Point. The NRCB requested licensees to take short-term compensatory actions within 15 days of the NRCB to ensure that operators can identify and mitigate potential level errors. The NRCB also requested licensees to implement hardware modifications at the first cold shutdown after July 30, 1993, to ensure the level instrumentation system design is of high functional reliability for long-term operation.

Your July 30, 1993, response stated that you: (1) have implemented appropriate short-term compensatory measures, and (2) were going to install a reference leg fill system on a schedule consistent with NRCB 93-03. In your December 28, 1993, response you stated that Hope Creek was brought to cold shutdown on December 1, 1993, and the hardware modification for reference leg fill has been implemented. Post-installation testing has been satisfactorily completed and Hope Creek has been returned to power operation. The staff also understands that the modification was reviewed under 10 CFR 50.59 and it was determined that it did not involve an unreviewed safety question.

Based on the information provided in your July 30, 1993, and December 28, 1993 letters, we consider your response to NRCB 93-03 to be acceptable. Please retain records related to your actions taken in response to this NRCB for possible future inspection by the NRC staff. This completes the licensing action for TAC No. M86896.

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Handwritten signature and date:
1/25/94

Mr. Steven E. Miltenberger

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February 23, 1994

On November 26, 1993, the NRC staff issued NRC Information Notice (IN) 93-89, "Potential Problems With BWR Level Instrumentation Backfill Modifications." The staff is still reviewing the concerns identified in this IN, and any possible actions will be addressed separately.

Sincerely,

/s/

James C. Stone, Project Manager
Project Directorate I-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page

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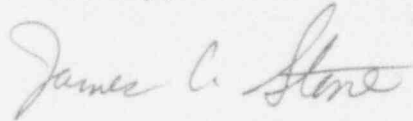
Mr. Steven E. Miltenberger

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February 23, 1994

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James C. Stone".

James C. Stone, Project Manager
Project Directorate I-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page

Mr. Steven E. Miltenberger
Public Service Electric & Gas
Company

Hope Creek Generating Station

cc:

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