

ENCLOSURE 1

NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Public Service Electric and Gas Company
Hope Creek Nuclear Generating Station

Docket No. 50-354
License No. NPF-57
EA 95-160

During an NRC investigation conducted in 1994 and 1995 by the NRC Office of Investigations, violations of NRC requirements were identified. In accordance with the "General Statement of Policy and Procedure for NRC Enforcement Actions," (NUREG-1600; 60 FR 34381, June 30, 1995), the violations are listed below:

- A. Technical Specification 6.2.2.b requires that a Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) be in the control room during Operational Conditions 1, 2, or 3.

Contrary to the above, on June 3, 1992, from 1:38 pm until 1:41 pm, while the reactor was in Operational Condition 1, there was no SRO in the control room. (01014)

This is a Severity Level IV violation (Supplement 1).

- B. 10 CFR 50.73(a)(2)(i)(B) requires that the licensee submit a Licensee Event Report (LER) within 30 days after discovery of any event involving any operation or condition prohibited by the Technical Specifications.

Technical Specification 6.2.2.b requires that a Senior Reactor Operator be in the control room during Operational Conditions 1, 2, or 3.

Contrary to the above, on June 3, 1992, from 1:38 pm until 1:41 pm, while the reactor was in Operational Condition 1, there was no SRO in the control room, a condition contrary to the technical specifications, which was discovered by the on-duty Senior Nuclear Shift Supervisor on June 3, 1992, and this event was not reported to the NRC in an LER until October 14, 1994. (02014)

This is a Severity Level IV violation (Supplement 1).

Pursuant to the provisions of 10 CFR 2.201, Public Service Electric & Gas (PSE&G) is hereby required to submit a written statement or explanation to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Document Control Desk, Washington, D.C. 20555 with a copy to the Regional Administrator, Region I, and a copy to the NRC Resident Inspector at the facility that is the subject of this Notice, within 30 days of the date of the letter transmitting this Notice of Violation (Notice). This reply should be clearly marked as a "Reply to a Notice of Violation" and should include for each violation: (1) the reason for the violation, or, if contested, the basis for disputing the violation, (2) the corrective steps that have been taken and the results achieved, (3) the corrective steps that will be taken to avoid further violations, and (4) the date when full compliance will be achieved. Your response may reference or include previous docketed correspondence, if the correspondence adequately addresses the required response. If an adequate reply is not received within the time specified in this Notice, an Order or a Demand for Information may be issued as to why the license should not be modified, suspended, or revoked, or why such other action as may be proper should not be taken. Where good cause is shown, consideration will be given to extending the response time.

Because your response will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR), to the extent possible, it should not include any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information so that it can be placed in the PDR without redaction. However, if you find it necessary to include such information, you should clearly indicate the specific information that you desire not to be placed in the PDR, and provide the legal basis to support your request for withholding the information from the public.

Dated at King of Prussia, Pennsylvania
this 19th day of September 1995

SYNOPSIS

On October 17, 1994, the Office of Investigations (OI) initiated an investigation into the circumstances surrounding the failure of the Hope Creek Generating Station (HCGS) to report a violation of plant Technical Specifications in a timely manner. The HCGS is operated by the Public Service Electric & Gas Company (PSE&G).

On June 3, 1992, the HCGS was operated without a Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) present in the control room for approximately 2 minutes and 56 seconds while the unit was in Operational Condition 1 (Op-Con 1). NRC regulations, and HCGS technical specifications, require the licensee to have a person holding an SRO license for the nuclear power unit in the control room at all times when the unit is in Op-Con 1. NRC regulations further require such a violation of station technical specifications to be reported to the NRC within 30 days of discovery, via a Licensee Event Report (LER). The June 3, 1992, event was not reported to the NRC until October 14, 1994, via HCGS LER 94-013-00.

The OI investigation did not substantiate that HCGS operations personnel deliberately subverted NRC reporting requirements. However, the investigation did substantiate that the on duty HCGS Senior Nuclear Shift Supervisor deliberately failed to document the event in accordance with internal procedures, and his failure led to the delinquent licensee LER.