50-354

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

October 10, 1995

Mr. Leon R. Eliason
Chief Nuclear Officer & President-
Nuclear Business Unit
Public Service Electric & Gas
Company
Post Office Box 236
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

SUBJECT: GENERIC LETTER (GL) 94-03, "INTERGRANULAR STRESS CORROSION CRACKING OF CORE SHROUDS IN BWRs," HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION (TAC NO. M90096)

Dear Mr. Eliason:

By letter dated August 24, 1994, Public Service Electric and Gas Company, the licensee, provided their response to Generic Letter (GL) 94-03, "Intergranular Stress Corrosion Cracking of Core Shrouds in BWRs," for the Hope Creek Generating Station (HCGS). The NRC staff requested in GL 94-03 that licensees take the following actions with respect to their core shrouds: 1) inspect their core shrouds in their BWR plants no later than the next refueling outage, 2) perform materials related and plant specific consequence safety analyses with respect to their core shrouds, 3) develop core shroud inspection plans which address inspection of all core shroud welds and which takes into account the latest available inspection technology, 4) develop plans for evaluation and/or repair of their core shrouds, and 5) work closely with the BWR Owners Group with respect to addressing intergranular stress corrosion cracking of BWR internals.

The NRC staff required that licensees submit, under oath or affirmation, the following information in response to GL 94-03 within 30 days of the date of issuance: 1) a schedule for inspection of their core shrouds, 2) a safety analysis, including a plant specific safety analysis as appropriate, which supports continued operation of the facility until inspections are conducted, 3) a drawing(s) of the core shroud configurations, and 4) a history of shroud inspections completed to date. The NRC staff also required that licensees submit, under oath or affirmation, no later than 3 months prior to performing their core shroud inspections, their scope for inspection of their core shroud and their plans for evaluating and/or repairing their core shroud based on inspection results. The NRC staff further required licensees to submit, under oath or affirmation, their core shroud inspection results within 30 days of completing their shroud examination.

The NRC staff has completed its review of your response. Based on the staff's review of the response to GL 94-03, and in regard to the information that was requested to be submitted within 30 days of the date of issuance of the GL, the staff has determined that the licensee has provided the necessary information for the staff to complete its review.





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The staff concludes that while cracking cannot be entirely ruled out, the HCGS core shroud is not likely to contain cracks which could compromise its structural integrity. The low water conductivity, short operational time, and use of low carbon materials minimize the potential for the initiation and growth of structurally significant cracks. The staff concludes that the licensee's materials based safety assessment of the HCGS shroud is sufficient to justify continued safe operation of the unit until the next core shroud inspection without necessitating a detailed consequence analysis. However, per the reporting requirements of GL 94-03, the licensee shall submit, no later than 90 days prior to entering the outage in which the core shroud inspection is scheduled to occur, a detailed inspection scope for a more comprehensive examination of the HCGS shroud.

Sincerely,

/S/

David H. Jaffe, Project Manager
Project Directorate I-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-354

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

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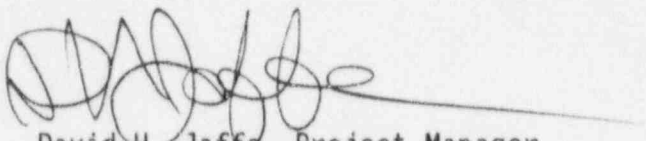
Sincerely,



David H. Jaffe, Project Manager
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cc w/encl: See next page

Mr. Leon R. Eliason
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