October 20, 1995

Mr. Leon R. Eliason Chief Nuclear Officer and President Nuclear Business Unit Public Service Electric and Gas Company P.O. Box 236 Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

SUBJECT: HOPE CREEK RESIDENT INSPECTION NO. 50-354/95-16

Dear Mr. Eliason:

The enclosed report documents an inspection for public health and safety, conducted by Mr. R. Summers, Senior Resident Inspector and other members of the NRC resident and regional staff at the Hope Creek Nuclear Generating Station for the period between August 12, 1995 and September 23, 1995. The inspectors discussed the findings of this inspection with Mr. M. Reddemann of your staff.

The inspectors observed a number of performance improvements during this period, especially regarding operations communications and self-assessment activities, such as the Nuclear Review Board. In contrast, we noted an increasing trend in corrective maintenance backlog and the poor reliability of radioactive waste equipment and its attendant monitoring instrumentation.

Within the scope of this inspection, the inspectors did not find any violations. No reply to this letter is required. In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Your cooperation with us is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by:

Larry E. Nicholson, Chief Projects Branch 3 Division of Reactor Projects

Docket No. 50-354

Enclosure: NRC Inspection Report No. 50-354/95-16

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Mr. Leon R. Eliason

cc w/encl:

L. Storz, Senior Vice President - Nuclear Operations

E. Simpson, Senior Vice President - Nuclear Engineering

J. Hagan, Vice President - Business Support

C. Schaefer, External Operations - Nuclear, Delmarva Power & Light Co.

P. MaFarland Goelz, Manager, Joint Generation Atlantic Electric

R. Burricelli, Director - External Affairs M. Reddemann, General Manager - Hope Creek Operations J. Benjamin, General Manager - Quality Assurance & Nuclear Safety Review F. Thomson, Manager - Licensing and Regulation

R. Kankus, Joint Owner Affairs

A. C. Tapert, Program Administrator

R. Fryling, Jr., Esquire

M. J. Wetterhahn, Esquire

Consumer Advocate, Office of Consumer Advocate William Conklin, Public Safety Consultant, Lower Alloways Creek Township State of New Jersey

State of Delaware

## Mr. Leon R. Eliason

Distribution w/encl: Region I Docket Room (with concurrences) K. Gallagher D. Screnci, PAO (2) Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC) NRC Resident Inspector PUBLIC

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