



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 50 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-57

PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANY

ATLANTIC CITY ELECTRIC COMPANY

HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION

DOCKET NO. 50-354

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated February 24, 1992, the Public Service Electric & Gas Company and Atlantic City Electric Company (the licensees) submitted a request for changes to the Hope Creek Generating Station, Technical Specifications (TS). The requested changes would revise the snubber visual inspection requirements which are delineated in TS Surveillance 4.7.5. The revision incorporated an alternate schedule for snubber visual inspections which was recommended by the NRC in Generic Letter (GL) 90-09.

2.0 EVALUATION

The TS specify a schedule for snubber visual inspections that is based on the number of inoperable snubbers found during the previous visual inspection. Because the current schedule for snubber visual inspections is based only on the number of inoperable snubbers found during the previous visual inspection, irrespective of the size of the snubber population, licensees having a large number of snubbers find that the visual inspection schedule is excessively restrictive. Some licensees have spent a significant amount of resources and have subjected plant personnel to unnecessary radiological exposure to comply with the visual examination requirements. To alleviate this situation the NRC staff (the staff) issued GL 90-09, "ALTERNATIVE REQUIREMENTS FOR SNUBBER VISUAL INSPECTION INTERVALS AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS." The GL 90-09 snubber inspection schedule is based on the number of unacceptable snubbers found during the previous inspection in proportion to the size of the various snubber populations or categories.

The staff has reviewed the licensees' submittal. The staff finds that the licensees' submittal is consistent with the guidance in GL 90-09. Therefore, the licensees' submittal is acceptable.

The staff, with the concurrence of the licensees, made the following editorial changes to the TS:

Reference to the newly created TS Table 4.7.5-1 was added to TS index page xiii.

In Note 1 on TS Table 4.7.5-1 the word "unaccessible" was changed to read "inaccessible."

The two above changes were purely administrative and did not increase the scope of the original amendment request and did not affect the staff's original no significant hazards determination.

3.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the New Jersey State Official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendment. The State official had no comments.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendment changes a surveillance requirement. The NRC staff has determined that the amendment involves no significant increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types, of any effluents that may be released offsite, and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The Commission has previously issued a proposed finding that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration, and there has been no public comment on such finding (57 FR 11116). Accordingly, the amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b) no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendment.

5.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

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Date: May 7, 1992