



Public Service Electric and Gas Company P.O. Box 236 Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey 08038-0236

Nuclear Business Unit

JAN 15 1997

LR-N97021

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

SPECIAL REPORT 97-01
HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION
FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-57
DOCKET NO. 50-354

Gentlemen:

This Special Report is being submitted pursuant to the requirements of Hope Creek Technical Specification 3.3.7.5, ACTION 81 b, due to the North Plant Vent (NPV) high range noble gas monitor being inoperable.

On January 2, 1997, at 0756 hours, Technical Specification Action Statements 3.3.7.5, "Accident Monitoring Instrumentation," and 3.3.7.11, "Radioactive Gaseous Effluent Monitoring Instrumentation," were entered to calibrate an iodine detector on the NPV Radiation Monitoring System (RMS). The iodine detector is not required to be operable for the NPV RMS to be operable, but the NPV RMS must be taken out of service to remove the iodine detector. This calibration was expected to take approximately six hours, but the iodine detector could not be satisfactorily calibrated.

On January 4, at 1407 hours, Operations attempted to restore the NPV to operability. While restoring the NPV to operability, an equipment operator reported manual process flow readings that were higher than the NPV readings in the Control Room. Due to the discrepancy between the readings, the NPV was not restored to operability. Troubleshooting efforts were initiated to resolve the discrepancy.

On January 5, 1997, during a review of the logs from the previous shift, Operations discovered that the manual process flow readings now agreed with the NPV readings in the Control Room. An investigation revealed that the equipment operator had reported higher than actual flow readings because he read an incorrect flow indicator. On January 5, at 1150 hours, the NPV was declared operable and the Action Statements for Technical Specifications 3.3.7.5 and 3.3.7.11 were exited. Since the NPV radiation monitoring equipment remained inoperable for a period of greater than 72 hours, this Special Report is required.

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The power is in your hands.

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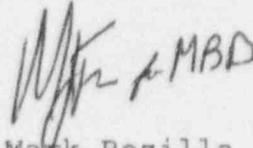
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Should you have any questions or comments on this transmittal,
please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Mark Bezilla, consisting of stylized initials and the letters 'MBD'.

Mark Bezilla
General Manager -
Hope Creek Operations

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