

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONPUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANYATLANTIC CITY ELECTRIC COMPANYHOPE CREEK GENERATING STATIONDOCKET NO. 50-354NOTICE OF PARTIAL DENIAL OF AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE
AND OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has denied part of a request by Public Service Electric & Gas Company, (licensee) for an amendment to Facility Operating License No. NPF-57 issued to the licensee for operation of the Hope Creek Generating Station, located at the licensee's site in Salem County, New Jersey. Notice of Consideration of Issuance of this amendment was published in the FEDERAL REGISTER on May 21, 1997 (62 FR 27798).

The purpose of the licensee's amendment request was to revise the Technical Specifications (TS) to change TS 3.6.5.3.2, "Filtration, Recirculation and Ventilation System (FRVS)," to provide an appropriate Limiting Condition for Operation and ACTION Statement that reflects the design basis for the FRVS. A second proposed change to TS 4.6.5.3.2b would permit the FRVS heaters to be OPERABLE rather than ON during the 31-day test. The change to TS 3.6.5.3.2 was found to be acceptable and issued as License Amendment No. 99 on July 9, 1997.

With regard to the proposed change to TS 4.6.5.3.2b, the NRC staff has concluded that the licensee's request cannot be granted. The licensee was notified of the Commission's denial of the proposed change by a letter dated July 9, 1997.

By August 15, 1997, the licensee may demand a hearing with respect to the denial described above. Any person whose interest may be affected by this proceeding may file a written petition for leave to intervene.

A request for hearing or petition for leave to intervene must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, Attention: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff, or may be delivered to the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, by the above date.

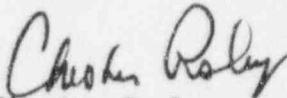
A copy of any petitions should also be sent to the Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, and to M. J. Wetterhahn, Esquire, Winston and Strawn, 1400 L Street, NW., Washington, DC 20005-3502, attorney for the licensee.

For further details with respect to this action, see (1) the application for amendment dated March 31, 1997, and (2) the Commission's letter to the licensee dated July 9, 1997.

These documents are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room located at the Pennsville Public Library, 190 S. Broadway, Pennsville, New Jersey 08070.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 9th day of July 1997.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION


Chester Poslusny, Acting Director
Project Directorate I-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation