

MAR 3 1986

Public Service Electric and Gas Company  
Mr. C. A. McNeill, Jr.  
Vice President - Nuclear  
PSE&G  
P. O. Box 236  
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

Gentlemen:

Subject: Inspection No. 50-354/86-06

This letter refers to the routine resident safety inspection conducted by Mr. R. Borchardt and others from January 13 to February 9, 1986 at the Hope Creek Nuclear Generating Station Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey. The inspection consisted of observation of activities, document reviews and interviews. The findings were discussed with Mr. R. Salvesen of your staff.

Based on the results of this inspection, it appears that certain of your activities were not conducted in full compliance with NRC requirements, as set forth in the Notice of Violation, enclosed herewith as Appendix A. This violation has been categorized by severity level in accordance with the NRC Enforcement Policy (10 CFR 2, Appendix C) published in the Federal Register Notice (47 FR 8583) dated March 8, 1984. You are required to respond to this letter. In preparing your response, you should follow the instructions in Appendix A.

Paragraph 4 of the enclosed inspection report and the corresponding Notice of Violation detail a situation that requires your prompt attention. Your failure during logic scheme checks, component level checks, and the Core Spray preoperational test to identify that a portion of the Core Spray System automatic initiation logic was not installed is of great concern to the NRC. We note that you eventually identified the deficiency during an Emergency Core Cooling System (ECCS) integrated initiation test. However, we feel that this deficiency remained undetected due to an inadequate review of post construction test activities. Our reviews of the Core Spray and other preoperational tests indicate that the large number and complexity of test exceptions generated during testing makes it extremely difficult to do an effective technical review. Extensive retesting and rework is then required, often after the system is turned over to operations, to complete the preoperational test package. A deliberate and detailed review of all preoperational tests is required in order to prevent similar violations and to ensure system operability prior to plant licensing and fuel load. During our discussions concerning the preoperational test program on February 12, 1986 you committed to not using preoperational test results to satisfy Technical Specification surveillance tests for other than certain static tests. Satisfactory completion of all mode 5 surveillance tests will add a significant factor of assurance that safety related equipment is operable prior to issuance of a low power operating license and fuel load activities.

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The responses directed by this letter and the accompanying Notice are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, PL 96-511.

Your cooperation with us is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

R. W. Starostecki, Director  
Division of Reactor Projects

Enclosures:

1. Appendix A, Notice of Violation
2. NRC Inspection Report No. 50-354/86-06

cc w/encls:

T. J. Martin, Vice President - Engineering (Newark)  
R. S. Salvesen, General Manager, Hoper Creek Operations  
A. E. Giardino, Manager, Station Quality Assurance  
A. J. Pietrofitta, General Manager, Power Production Engineering, Atlantic Electric  
L. A. Reiter, General Manager - Licensing and Reliability  
R. A. Green, Bureau of Radiation Protection  
Public Document Room (PDR)  
Local Public Document Room (LPDR)  
Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)  
NRC Resident Inspector  
State of New Jersey

bcc w/encls:

Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)  
Management Assistant, DRMA (w/o encls)  
DRP Section Chief  
D. Wagner, NRR  
E. Conner, RI  
R. Fuhrmeister, RI

RI:DRP  
Conner  
2/25/86

RI:DRP  
Strosnider  
2/25/86

RI:DRP  
Kister  
2/25/86

RI:DRP  
Starostecki  
3/3/86