



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
REGION I
2100 RENAISSANCE BOULEVARD, SUITE 100
KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19406-2713

November 30, 2021

Mr. Eric Carr
President and Chief Nuclear Officer
PSEG Nuclear, LLC
P.O. Box 236
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

SUBJECT: HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION AND SALEM NUCLEAR
GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2 – EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
BIENNIAL EXERCISE INSPECTION REPORT 05000354/2021501,
05000272/2021501 AND 05000311/2021501

Dear Mr. Carr:

On November 8, 2021, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed an inspection at Hope Creek Generating Station and Salem Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1 and 2 and discussed the results of this inspection with Mr. Edward Casulli, Site Vice President and other members of your staff. The results of this inspection are documented in the enclosed report.

No findings or violations of more than minor significance were identified during this inspection.

This letter, its enclosure, and your response (if any) will be made available for public inspection and copying at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> and at the NRC Public Document Room in accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* 2.390, "Public Inspections, Exemptions, Requests for Withholding."

Sincerely,

Fred L. Bower, III, Chief
Security, Emergency Preparedness and Incident
Response Branch
Division of Radiological Safety and Security

Docket Nos. 05000354, 05000272 and 05000311
License Nos. NPF-57, DPR-70 and DPR-75

Enclosure:
As stated

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 GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2 – EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
 BIENNIAL EXERCISE INSPECTION REPORT 05000354/2021501,
 05000272/2021501 AND 05000311/2021501 DATED NOVEMBER 30, 2021

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**U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
Inspection Report**

Docket Numbers: 05000354, 05000272 and 05000311

License Numbers: NPF-57, DPR-70 and DPR-75

Report Numbers: 05000354/2021501, 05000272/2021501 and 05000311/2021501

Enterprise Identifier: I-2021-501-0006
I-2021-501-0007

Licensee: PSEG Nuclear, LLC

Facility: Hope Creek Generating Station and Salem Nuclear Generating Station,
Units 1 and 2

Location: Hancock's Bridge, NJ 08038

Inspection Dates: November 1, 2021 to November 5, 2021

Inspectors: J. DeBoer, Senior Emergency Preparedness Inspector
J. Demarshall, Senior Operations Engineer
J. Lilliendahl, Senior Emergency Response Coordinator
S. McCarver, Physical Security Inspector
S. Seeley, Health Physicist

Approved By: Fred L. Bower, III, Chief
Security, Emergency Preparedness and Incident Response Branch
Division of Radiological Safety and Security

Enclosure

SUMMARY

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) continued monitoring the licensee's performance by conducting an emergency preparedness biennial exercise inspection at Hope Creek Generating Station and Salem Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1 and 2, in accordance with the Reactor Oversight Process. The Reactor Oversight Process is the NRC's program for overseeing the safe operation of commercial nuclear power reactors. Refer to <https://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/oversight.html> for more information.

List of Findings and Violations

No findings or violations of more than minor significance were identified.

Additional Tracking Items

None.

INSPECTION SCOPES

Inspections were conducted using the appropriate portions of the inspection procedures (IPs) in effect at the beginning of the inspection unless otherwise noted. Currently approved IPs with their attached revision histories are located on the public website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/insp-manual/inspection-procedure/index.html>. Samples were declared complete when the IP requirements most appropriate to the inspection activity were met consistent with Inspection Manual Chapter (IMC) 2515, "Light-Water Reactor Inspection Program - Operations Phase." The inspectors reviewed selected procedures and records, observed activities, and interviewed personnel to assess licensee performance and compliance with Commission rules and regulations, license conditions, site procedures, and standards.

REACTOR SAFETY

71114.01 - Exercise Evaluation

Inspection Review (IP Section 02.01-02.11) (1 Sample)

- (1) The inspectors evaluated the biennial emergency plan exercise at Hope Creek. As a result of the 2020 COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, PSEG requested and received a one-time schedular exemption to postpone the calendar year (CY) 2020 full participation biennial emergency preparedness (EP) exercise until CY 2021 in accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 50, Appendix E, Sections IV.F.2.b and IV.F.2.c (ML20287A628). This was approved on December 7, 2020 (ML20315A434). The offsite portion of the exercise was conducted on April 28, 2021, and not observed by the NRC inspectors. To assess the offsite portion of the exercise, the inspectors reviewed the Federal Emergency Management Agency final After-Action Report, dated July 27, 2021. On November 3, 2021, PSEG conducted the onsite portion of the exercise and the scenario simulated a seismic event, loss of coolant accident, and loss of containment integrity. PSEG onsite emergency responders also participated in a simulated large-scale fire exercise scenario which damaged the station service water intake building to demonstrate the extensive damage mitigation guidelines described in 10 CFR 50.155(b)(2) as required by 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix E.IV.F.2.j on November 4, 2021.

71114.04 - Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes

Inspection Review (IP Section 02.01-02.03) (1 Sample)

The inspector's review included document review, field walkdowns, and interviews with licensee personnel regarding the current status of the Wind Port Project and any potential impacts on the site's emergency plan. The inspectors verified that there have been no changes to the sites' emergency plan at the time of the inspection. Based on the current size and manpower dedicated to this project, the inspectors did not identify any issues of concern because PSEG has assigned a dedicated escort that is responsible for notifying the Wind Port construction workers to evacuate the construction site and technical specifications designed exclusion zone in a timely manner in the event of a radiological emergency on the Salem or Hope Creek facilities. As the project progresses in size and manpower the licensee plans to make subsequent revisions to this evaluation and determine if a change to the emergency plan is warranted. PSEG

expects that a plan change may be required early in calendar year 2022. The NRC plans to inspect future revisions of this 50.54Q evaluation as necessary.

- (1) The inspectors evaluated the following submitted Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan changes:
 - Evaluation No. 2020-01, DCP 80123169, Radio Upgrade Project, Revision 1
 - Evaluation No. 2020-22, Emergency Plan Section 17, Emergency Plan Administration, Revision 25
 - Evaluation No. 2020-26, Emergency Plan Section 7, Emergency Communications, Revision 17
 - Evaluation No. 2020-28, Emergency Plan Section 17, Emergency Plan Administration, Revision 25
 - Evaluation No. 2021-04, Wind Port Project, Revision 0

This evaluation does not constitute NRC approval.

71114.08 - Exercise Evaluation Scenario Review

Inspection Review (IP Section 02.01 - 02.04) (1 Sample)

- (1) The inspectors reviewed and evaluated the proposed scenario for biennial emergency plan exercise on September 28, 2021.

OTHER ACTIVITIES – BASELINE

71151 - Performance Indicator Verification

The inspectors verified licensee performance indicators submittals listed below:

EP01: Drill/Exercise Performance (DEP) Sample (IP Section 02.12) (1 Sample)

- (1) July 1, 2020 through September 30, 2020 (common to Salem and Hope Creek)

EP02: Emergency Response Organization (ERO) Drill Participation (IP Section 02.13) (1 Sample)

- (1) July 1, 2020 through September 30, 2020 (common to Salem and Hope Creek)

EP03: Alert And Notification System (ANS) Reliability Sample (IP Section 02.14) (1 Sample)

- (1) July 1, 2020 through September 30, 2020 (common to Salem and Hope Creek)

INSPECTION RESULTS

No findings were identified.

EXIT MEETINGS AND DEBRIEFS

The inspectors verified no proprietary information was retained or documented in this report.

- On November 8, 2021, the inspectors presented the emergency preparedness biennial exercise inspection results to Mr. Edward Casulli, Site Vice President and other members of the licensee staff.

DOCUMENTS REVIEWED

Inspection Procedure	Type	Designation	Description or Title	Revision or Date
71114.01	Miscellaneous		Hope Creek 10 CFR 50.155(b)(2) Table Top Exercise Scenario Package for November 4, 2021	0
		H21-02	Hope Creek 2021 Graded Exercise Scenario Package	0