

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION REGION I 475 ALLENDALE RD, STE 102 KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19406-1415

January 27, 2025

EA-24-111

Brad Berryman Senior Vice President and Chief Nuclear Officer Susquehanna Nuclear, LLC 769 Salem Blvd., NUCSB3 Berwick, PA 18603

SUBJECT: SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2 – FINAL SIGNIFICANCE DETERMINATION OF A WHITE FINDING WITH ASSESSMENT FOLLOW-UP AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION; INSPECTION REPORT 05000387/2025090 AND 05000388/2025090

Dear Brad Berryman:

This letter provides you the final significance determination of the preliminary White finding and associated apparent violation discussed in U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Inspection Report 05000387/2024012 and 05000388/2024012 issued on November 25, 2024 (ML24330A017)¹. The finding involved failure to promptly identify and correct a condition adverse to quality for the 'B' emergency diesel generator.

In a letter dated December 4, 2024 (ML24339B736), Edward Casulli, Site Vice President, Susquehanna Nuclear, LLC, confirmed that Susquehanna Nuclear, LLC, did not contest the characterization of the risk significance of this finding and that you declined your opportunity to discuss this issue at a regulatory conference or to provide a written response. Therefore, after considering the information developed during the inspection, the NRC has concluded that the finding is appropriately characterized as White, a finding of low to moderate safety significance. Note: According to NRC Inspection Manual Chapter (IMC) 0609, appeal rights only apply to those licensees that have either attended a regulatory conference or submitted a written response to the preliminary determination letter.

The NRC has also determined that Susquehanna's failure to promptly identify and correct a condition adverse to quality for the 'B' emergency diesel generator is a violation of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix B, Criterion XVI, "Corrective Action," and Technical Specification (TS) 3.8.1 as cited in the attached Notice of Violation (Notice). The circumstances surrounding the violation were described in detail in the subject inspection report. In accordance with the NRC Enforcement Policy, the Notice is considered escalated enforcement action because it is associated with a White finding. The NRC has concluded that the information regarding the

¹ Designation in parentheses refers to an Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) accession number. Documents referenced in this letter are publicly available using the accession number in ADAMS.

reason for the violation, the corrective actions taken and planned to correct the violation and prevent recurrence, and the date when full compliance will be achieved is already adequately addressed on the docket in NRC Inspection Report 05000387/2024012 and 05000388/2024012. Therefore, you are not required to respond to this letter unless the description therein does not accurately reflect your corrective actions or your position.

As a result of this White finding in the Mitigating Systems cornerstone, the NRC has assessed that the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Units 1 and 2, will transition to the Regulatory Response column of the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process Action Matrix described in Inspection Manual Chapter 0305, "Operating Reactor Assessment Program." This White finding input is retroactive to the fourth calendar quarter of 2024. The NRC plans to conduct a supplemental inspection for this finding in accordance with Inspection Procedure 95001, "Supplemental Inspection Response to Action Matrix Column 2 (Regulatory Response) Inputs," following Susquehanna's notification of the readiness for this inspection. This inspection is conducted to provide assurance that the root causes and contributing causes of any performance issues are understood, the extent of condition is identified, and the corrective actions are sufficient to prevent recurrence.

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosure, and your response, if you choose to provide one, will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the NRC's document system (ADAMS), accessible from the NRC website at <u>http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html</u>. To the extent possible, your response should not include any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information so that it can be made available to the Public without redaction.

Sincerely,

Raymond K. Lorson Regional Administrator

Docket Nos. 05000387 and 05000388 License Nos. NPF-14 and NPF-22

Enclosure: Notice of Violation

cc w/encl: Distribution via LISTSERV

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ENCLOSURE

NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Susquehanna Nuclear, LLC

Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Units 1 and 2

Docket Nos. 05000387 and 0500388 License Nos. NPF-14 and NPF-22 EA-24-111

During an NRC inspection conducted from April 8, 2024, to October 31, 2024, a violation of NRC requirements was identified. In accordance with the NRC Enforcement Policy, the violation is listed below:

Title 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix B, Criterion XVI, "Corrective Action," requires, in part, that measures shall be established to assure that conditions adverse to quality, such as failures, malfunctions, deficiencies, and defective material and equipment, and non-conformances are promptly identified and corrected.

Susquehanna TS 3.8.1, "AC Sources-Operating," requires, in part, that four EDGs be operable while in Modes 1, 2, or 3. If one required EDG is determined to be inoperable, it shall be returned to an operable status within 72 hours. If not restored to an operable status, the unit shall be shut down and placed in Mode 3 in 12 hours and Mode 4 in 36 hours.

Contrary to the above, from August 17, 2017, to April 19, 2024, Susquehanna Steam Electric Station failed to establish measures to assure a condition adverse to quality related to degradation of the 'B' EDG linear reactors was promptly identified and corrected. As a result, the 'B' EDG tripped on generator differential current and was rendered inoperable when the 'C' phase linear reactor failed during a surveillance test on April 8, 2024. Consequently, the 'B' EDG was rendered inoperable prior to April 8, 2024, for a period longer than its TS allowed outage time, and the unit was not shut down and placed in Mode 3 within 12 hours and Mode 4 within 36 hours.

This violation is associated with a White SDP finding.

The NRC has concluded that information regarding the reason for the violation, the corrective actions taken and planned to correct the violation and prevent recurrence and the date when full compliance was achieved is already adequately addressed on the docket in Inspection Report 05000387/2024012 and 05000388/2024012. However, you are required to submit a written statement or explanation pursuant 10 CFR 2.201 if the description on the docket does not accurately reflect your corrective actions or your position. In that case, or if you choose to respond, please clearly mark your response as "Reply to a Notice of Violation; EA-24-111" and send it to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Document Control Desk, Washington, DC 20555-0001 with a copy to the Regional Administrator, Region I, and a copy to the NRC Resident Inspector at Susquehanna Steam Electric Station within 30 days of the date of the issuance of this Notice of Violation (Notice).

If you choose to respond, your response will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the NRC's document system (ADAMS), accessible from the NRC Web site at http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html. Therefore, to the extent possible, the response should not include any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information so that it can be made available to the Public without redaction.

Dated this 27th day of January, 2025