

November 18, 1999

EA-99-271

Mr. Robert G. Byram  
Senior Vice President, Nuclear  
PP&L, Inc.  
2 North Ninth Street  
Allentown, PA 18101

**SUBJECT: NRC INTEGRATED INSPECTION REPORT 50-387/99-09 and 50-388/99-09**

Dear Mr. Byram:

On October 16, 1999, the NRC completed an inspection at the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station (SSES) Unit 1& 2 reactor facilities. The enclosed report covered routine activities by the resident inspectors and an announced inspection of your Radiological Environmental Monitoring and Meteorological Monitoring Programs by a Region I specialist. The inspectors discussed the findings of these inspections with Mr. B. Shriver, General Manager - SSES, and other members of your staff, at an exit meeting at the completion of the inspection period.

Overall your staff safely operated the facility during this period. Nevertheless, the NRC noted examples of your staff not effectively using your corrective action system. Specifically, on some occasions your staff did not initially document equipment problems, developed narrowly focused corrective actions or evaluations, missed opportunities to prevent problems, or were slow to evaluate a problem. Your continued strong management attention in this area is warranted. We plan to continue to focus our inspections in this area.

The NRC has determined that there were two Severity Level IV violations of NRC requirements. These violations are being treated as Non-Cited Violations (NCVs), consistent with Appendix C of the Enforcement Policy. These NCVs are described in the subject inspection report and involve the high-pressure coolant injection (HPCI) vibration limits being exceeded, and the failure of the "A" Feedwater Penetration to meet Technical Specification leakage criteria. If you contest the violations or severity level of these NCVs, you should provide a response within 30 days of the date of this inspection report, with the basis for your denial, to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Document Control Desk, Washington DC 20555-0001, with copies to the Regional Administrator, Region I, the Director, Office of Enforcement, United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, and the NRC resident inspector at the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station.

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PDR ADOCK

Mr. Robert G. Byram

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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosure, and your response will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Sincerely,

**Original Signed By:**

Curtis J. Cowgill, Chief  
Projects Branch 4  
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos: 50-387;50-388  
License Nos: NPF-14, NPF-22

Enclosure: Inspection Report 50-387/99-06, 50-388/99-06

cc w/encl:

R. F. Saunders, Vice President - Site Operations  
G. T. Jones, Vice President - Engineering and Support  
B. Shriver, General Manager - SSES  
T. Harpster, Supervisor, Nuclear Licensing  
G. D. Miller, General Manager - Nuclear Assurance  
R. R. Wehry, Nuclear Licensing  
P. Nederostek, Nuclear Services Manager, General Electric  
W. H. Lowthert, Manager - Nuclear Plant Services  
A. Male, Manager, Nuclear Assessment Services  
H. D. Woodeshick, Special Assistant to the President  
R. W. Osburne, Vice President, Supply & Engineering  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Mr. Robert G. Byram

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