

Mr. Harold W. Keiser
Chief Nuclear Officer & President -
Nuclear Business Unit
Public Service Electric & Gas
Company
Post Office Box 236
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

December 21, 1999

SUBJECT: SAFETY EVALUATION OF INSERVICE TESTING PROGRAM RELIEF
REQUEST NO. V04 FOR EXCESS FLOW CHECK VALVES, HOPE CREEK
GENERATING STATION (TAC NO. MA7131)

Dear Mr. Keiser:

By letter dated November 15, 1999, Public Service Electric and Gas Company submitted Valve Relief Request No. V04 for the Hope Creek Generating Station Inservice Testing (IST) Program for the second 10-year interval. Your letter proposed an alternative to certain requirements of Section XI of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (the Code) pertaining to testing of excess flow check valves.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has evaluated the information provided in your submittal, and has concluded that the alternative to the Code requirements proposed in Relief Request No. V04 is authorized pursuant to Section 50.55a(a)(3)(ii) of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR). Compliance with the Code requirements would result in hardship or unusual difficulty without a compensating increase in the level of quality and safety. The staff's safety evaluation is enclosed.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact the Hope Creek Project Manager, Richard B. Ennis, at (301) 415-1420.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:
James W. Clifford, Chief, Section 2
Project Directorate I
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-354

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

December 21, 1999

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "James W. Clifford", is written over a horizontal line.

James W. Clifford, Chief, Section 2
Project Directorate I
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-354

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

Hope Creek Generating Station

cc:

Jeffrie J. Keenan, Esquire
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Nuclear Engineering
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