

August 23, 2002

Mr. Harold Keiser  
Chief Nuclear Officer and President  
PSEG Nuclear LLC - N09  
P. O. Box 236  
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND INSPECTION PLAN  
HOPE CREEK

Dear Mr. Keiser:

On August 7, 2002, the NRC staff completed its mid-cycle plant performance assessment of Hope Creek. In accordance with NRC Inspection Manual Chapter 0305 "Operating Reactor Assessment Program," the mid-cycle review involved the participation of all technical divisions in evaluating the performance of your Hope Creek facility for the first half of the current assessment cycle, January 1 - December 31, 2002. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our assessment of your safety performance during this period and our plans for future inspections at your facility so that you will have an opportunity to prepare for these inspections and to inform us of any planned inspections which may conflict with your plant activities.

Plant performance for the most recent quarter was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC's Action Matrix, based on all inspection findings being classified as having very low safety significance (Green) and all performance indicators (PIs) indicating performance at a level requiring no additional NRC oversight (Green). Therefore, we plan to conduct only baseline inspections at your facility through September 30, 2003.

The enclosed inspection plan details the inspections scheduled through September 30, 2003. The inspection plan is provided to minimize the resource impact on your staff and to allow for scheduling conflicts and personnel availability to be resolved in advance of inspector arrival onsite. Routine resident inspections are not listed due to their ongoing and continuous nature. The last six months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the end-of-cycle review.

In addition, the NRC is in the process of finalizing a Temporary Instruction (TI) that will be used to review implementation of the Interim Compensatory Measures required by the Agency's Security Order to all commercial nuclear power plants dated February 25, 2002. Schedules have not yet been finalized, but it is anticipated that these inspections will begin within the next calendar quarter. Once finalized, the details will be communicated by separate correspondence.

Mr. Harold Keiser

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If circumstances arise which cause us to change the inspection plan, we will contact you to discuss the change as soon as possible. Please contact me at (610) 337-5211 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Glenn W. Meyer, Chief  
Projects Branch 3  
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket No. 50-354  
Licensee No. NPF-57

Enclosure: Hope Creek Inspection/ Activity Plan

cc w/encl:

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Mr. Harold Keiser

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**Hope Creek**  
**Inspection / Activity Plan**  
**06/30/2002 - 09/30/2003**

Unit Number	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site	Planned Dates		Inspection Type
				Start	End	
	<b>7/19 EXM</b>	<b>- OPERATOR LICENSING INITIAL RETAKE EXAMS</b>	<b>1</b>			
1	U01546	HOPE CREEK RETAKE EXAM (7/19/02)		07/19/2002	07/19/2002	Not Applicable
	<b>71121</b>	<b>- OCC RAD SAFETY</b>	<b>1</b>			
1	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		09/16/2002	09/20/2002	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		09/16/2002	09/20/2002	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112103	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation and Protective Equipment		09/16/2002	09/20/2002	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		09/16/2002	09/20/2002	Baseline Inspections
	<b>71130</b>	<b>- SECURITY-RESPONSE ATT3</b>	<b>2</b>			
1	IP 7113003	Response to Contingency Events (Protective Strategy and Implementation of Protective Strategy)		11/04/2002	11/08/2002	Baseline Inspections
	<b>711121</b>	<b>- SSDI</b>	<b>7</b>			
1	IP 711121	Safety System Design and Performance Capability		11/18/2002	11/22/2002	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 711121	Safety System Design and Performance Capability		12/09/2002	12/13/2002	Baseline Inspections
	<b>711111B</b>	<b>- L.O.REQUALIFICATION PROGRAM</b>	<b>2</b>			
1	IP 711111B	Licensed Operator Requalification		12/02/2002	12/06/2002	Baseline Inspections
	<b>71121</b>	<b>- OCC RAD SAFETY</b>	<b>1</b>			
1	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		01/06/2003	01/10/2003	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		01/06/2003	01/10/2003	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112103	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation and Protective Equipment		01/06/2003	01/10/2003	Baseline Inspections
	<b>711117B</b>	<b>- MODS</b>	<b>3</b>			
1	IP 7111102	Evaluation of Changes, Tests, or Experiments		01/13/2003	01/17/2003	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 711117B	Permanent Plant Modifications		01/13/2003	01/17/2003	Baseline Inspections
	<b>7112203</b>	<b>- PUB RAD SAFETY - REMP</b>	<b>1</b>			
1	IP 7112203	Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program		02/17/2003	02/21/2003	Baseline Inspections
	<b>71152B</b>	<b>- PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION AND RESOLUTION</b>	<b>6</b>			
1	IP 71152B	Identification and Resolution of Problems		03/10/2003	03/14/2003	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 71152B	Identification and Resolution of Problems		03/24/2003	03/28/2003	Baseline Inspections
	<b>71121</b>	<b>- OCC RAD SAFETY</b>	<b>1</b>			
1	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		04/07/2003	04/11/2003	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		04/07/2003	04/11/2003	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112103	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation and Protective Equipment		04/07/2003	04/11/2003	Baseline Inspections
	<b>7111108</b>	<b>- INSERVICE INSPECTION</b>	<b>1</b>			
1	IP 7111108	Inservice Inspection Activities		04/21/2003	04/25/2003	Baseline Inspections
	<b>6/16 EXM</b>	<b>- OPERATOR LICENSING INITIAL EXAMS</b>	<b>4</b>			
1	U01499	HOPE CREEK INITIAL EXAM (6/17/03)		05/19/2003	05/23/2003	Not Applicable

This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.  
This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.

**Hope Creek**  
**Inspection / Activity Plan**  
**06/30/2002 - 09/30/2003**

Unit Number	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site	Planned Dates		Inspection Type
				Start	End	
1	U01499	HOPE CREEK INITIAL EXAM (6/17/03)		06/16/2003	06/20/2003	Not Applicable
	<b>71130</b>	<b>- SECURITY</b>	<b>1</b>			
1	IP 7113001	Access Authorization Program (Behavior Observation Only)		07/21/2003	07/25/2003	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7113002	Access Control (Search of Personnel, Packages, and Vehicles: Identification and Authorizatio		07/21/2003	07/25/2003	Baseline Inspections
	<b>71121</b>	<b>- OCC RAD SAFETY</b>	<b>1</b>			
1	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		08/18/2003	08/22/2003	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		08/18/2003	08/22/2003	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112103	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation and Protective Equipment		08/18/2003	08/22/2003	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		08/18/2003	08/22/2003	Baseline Inspections

This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.  
This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.