



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

REGION I  
475 ALLENDALE ROAD  
KING OF PRUSSIA, PA 19406-1415

March 3, 2008

Mr. William Levis  
President and Chief Nuclear Officer  
PSEG Nuclear LLC  
80 Park Plaza, T4B  
Newark, NJ 07102

SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER - HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION  
(05000354/2008001)

Dear Mr. Levis:

On February 12, 2008, the NRC staff completed its performance review of Hope Creek Generating Station (Hope Creek). Our technical staff reviewed performance indicators (PIs) for the most recent quarter and inspection results for the period from January 1 through December 31, 2007. 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.

This performance review and the enclosed inspection plan do not include security information. A separate letter designated and marked as "Official Use Only--Security Information" will include the Security cornerstone review and resultant inspection plan.

Overall, Hope Creek operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and fully met all cornerstone objectives. Plant performance for the most recent quarter, as well as for the first three quarters of the assessment cycle, 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 PIs indicating performance at a level requiring no additional NRC oversight (Green). Therefore, we plan to conduct reactor oversight process baseline inspections at your facility. We also plan to conduct inspections to review activities related to your power up-rate application and operations during the independent spent fuel storage installation loading campaign scheduled in the third quarter of 2008.

The staff identified that there were more than three findings for the current assessment period with documented cross-cutting aspects in procedural compliance (H.4(b)) and complete, accurate and up-to-date procedures (H.2(c)). The staff determined that a substantive cross-cutting issue did not exist because you identified the problems with procedural compliance and procedure adequacy, recognized these problems affected multiple areas and developed comprehensive corrective actions. Specifically, you expanded the scope of the root cause analysis that you conducted for procedural compliance at Salem to also review performance at Hope Creek. In that analysis you identified procedural compliance and procedure adequacy issues and specified corrective actions which have been appropriately scheduled or completed for both themes. For procedural compliance your corrective actions focused on reinforcing standards through management observations and personal accountability. For procedure adequacy your corrective actions included implementing dynamic learning activities to reinforce standards for procedure accuracy and completeness and incorporating procedure reviews into the work management process.

The enclosed inspection plan details the inspections, less those related to security, scheduled through June 30, 2009. The inspection plan is provided to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues well in advance of inspector arrival onsite. Routine resident inspections are not listed due to their ongoing and continuous nature. The inspections in the last nine months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the mid-cycle review.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

If circumstances arise that cause us to change this inspection plan, we will contact you to discuss the change as soon as possible. Please contact me at 610-337-5069 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Arthur L. Burritt, Chief  
Reactor Projects Branch  
Division of Reactor Projects 3

Docket Nos. 50-354  
License Nos. NPF-57

Enclosure: Hope Creek Generating Station Inspection/ Activity Plan

cc w/encl:

T. Joyce, Senior Vice President, Operations  
G. Barnes, Site Vice President  
K. Chambliss, Director, Nuclear Oversight  
B. Clark, Director of Finance  
J. Perry, Hope Creek Plant Manager  
J. Keenan, General Solicitor, PSEG  
M. Wetterhahn, Esquire, Winston and Strawn, LLP  
Consumer Advocate, Office of Consumer Advocate, Commonwealth of PA  
L. Peterson, Chief of Police and Emergency Management Coordinator  
P. Baldauf, Assistant Director, NJ Radiation Protection Programs  
P. Mulligan, Chief, NJ Bureau of Nuclear Engineering  
H. Otto, Ph.D., Administrator, DE Division of Water Resources  
N. Cohen, Coordinator - Unplug Salem Campaign  
E. Zobian, Coordinator - Jersey Shore Anti Nuclear Alliance  
Institute of Nuclear Power Operations (INPO)

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Sincerely,  
Arthur L. Burritt, Chief /RA/  
Reactor Projects Branch  
Division of Reactor Projects 3

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**SUNSI REVIEW COMPLETE: LC (Reviewer's Initials)**

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OFFICE	RI/DRP		RI/DRP	
NAME	LCline/ LC		ABurritt/ ALB	
DATE	02/29 /08		02 / 28 /08	

**Hope Creek**  
**Inspection / Activity Plan**  
**01/01/2008 - 06/30/2009**

Unit Number	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site	Planned Dates Start	Planned Dates End	Inspection Type
	<b>7112201 - PUB RAD SAFETY - RETS</b>		<b>1</b>			
1	IP 7112201	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment and Monitoring Systems		01/28/2008	02/01/2008	Baseline Inspections
	<b>71004 - POWER UPRATE</b>		<b>3</b>			
1	IP 71004	Power Uprate		03/01/2008	07/31/2008	Other Routine
	<b>MODS - PERMANENT PLANT MODIFICATIONS</b>		<b>5</b>			
1	IP 7111117B	Evaluations of Changes, Tests, or Experiments & Permanent Plant Modifications		03/31/2008	04/04/2008	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7111117B	Evaluations of Changes, Tests, or Experiments & Permanent Plant Modifications		04/14/2008	04/18/2008	Baseline Inspections
	<b>71121 - OCC RAD SAFETY</b>		<b>1</b>			
1	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		05/12/2008	05/16/2008	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		05/12/2008	05/16/2008	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112103	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation and Protective Equipment		05/12/2008	05/16/2008	Baseline Inspections
	<b>EP - EP EXERCISE EVALUATION</b>		<b>4</b>			
1	IP 7111401	Exercise Evaluation		05/19/2008	05/23/2008	EP Baseline Inspection
1	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes		05/19/2008	05/23/2008	EP Baseline Inspection
1	IP 71151-EP01	Drill/Exercise Performance		05/19/2008	05/23/2008	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 71151-EP02	ERO Drill Participation		05/19/2008	05/23/2008	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 71151-EP03	Alert & Notification System		05/19/2008	05/23/2008	Baseline Inspections
	<b>DNMS - ISFSI LOADING CAMPAIGN INSPECTION</b>		<b>1</b>			
1	IP 60855	Operation Of An ISFSI		07/01/2008	09/30/2008	Other Routine
	<b>71121 - OCC RAD SAFETY</b>		<b>1</b>			
1	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		07/21/2008	07/25/2008	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		07/21/2008	07/25/2008	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112103	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation and Protective Equipment		07/21/2008	07/25/2008	Baseline Inspections
	<b>7111111B - REQUAL INSPECTION +P/F REVIEW</b>		<b>5</b>			
1	IP 7111111B	Licensed Operator Requalification Program		10/06/2008	10/10/2008	Baseline Inspections
	<b>TI 171 - TI 171</b>		<b>3</b>			
1	IP 2515/171	Verification of Site Specific Implementation Of B.5.b Phase 2 & 3 Mitigating Strategies		09/08/2008	09/12/2008	Generic Safety Inspecti
	<b>7111107B - HEAT SINK INSP</b>		<b>2</b>			
1	IP 7111107B	Heat Sink Performance		09/15/2008	09/19/2008	Baseline Inspections
	<b>71121 - OCC RAD SAFETY</b>		<b>1</b>			
1	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		09/29/2008	10/03/2008	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		09/29/2008	10/03/2008	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112103	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation and Protective Equipment		09/29/2008	10/03/2008	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		09/29/2008	10/03/2008	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 71151-PR01	RETS/ODCM Radiological Effluent		09/29/2008	10/03/2008	Baseline Inspections

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

**Hope Creek**  
**Inspection / Activity Plan**  
**01/01/2008 - 06/30/2009**

Unit Number	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site	Planned Dates Start	Planned Dates End	Inspection Type
	<b>2/2EXAM</b>	<b>- INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSING EXAM</b>	<b>4</b>			
1	U01693	FY09 - HOPE CREEK INITIAL OPERATOR EXAM		01/05/2009	01/09/2009	Not Applicable
1	U01693	FY09 - HOPE CREEK INITIAL OPERATOR EXAM		02/02/2009	02/13/2009	Not Applicable
	<b>71152B</b>	<b>- PI&amp;R BIENNIAL TEAM</b>	<b>4</b>			
1	IP 71152B	Identification and Resolution of Problems		01/12/2009	01/16/2009	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 71152B	Identification and Resolution of Problems		01/26/2009	01/30/2009	Baseline Inspections
	<b>EP PROGR</b>	<b>- EP PROGRAM INSPECTION</b>	<b>2</b>			
1	IP 7111402	Alert and Notification System Testing		03/22/2009	03/28/2009	EP Baseline Inspection
1	IP 7111403	Emergency Response Organization Augmentation Testing		03/22/2009	03/28/2009	EP Baseline Inspection
1	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes		03/22/2009	03/28/2009	EP Baseline Inspection
1	IP 7111405	Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies		03/22/2009	03/28/2009	EP Baseline Inspection
1	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		03/22/2009	03/28/2009	Baseline Inspections
	<b>71121</b>	<b>- OCC RAD SAFETY</b>	<b>1</b>			
1	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		04/06/2009	04/10/2009	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		04/06/2009	04/10/2009	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112103	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation and Protective Equipment		04/06/2009	04/10/2009	Baseline Inspections
	<b>7111108G</b>	<b>- INSERVICE INSPECTION</b>	<b>1</b>			
1	IP 7111108G	Inservice Inspection Activities - BWR		04/27/2009	05/01/2009	Baseline Inspections
	<b>7112203</b>	<b>- PUB RAD SAFETY - REMP</b>	<b>1</b>			
1	IP 7112203	Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program (REMP) And Radioactive Material Control Program		04/27/2009	05/01/2009	Baseline Inspections