



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION I  
475 ALLENDALE ROAD  
KING OF PRUSSIA, PA 19406-1415

September 1, 2011

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

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE LETTER FOR HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION  
(REPORT 05000354/2011006)

Dear Mr. Joyce:

On August 11, 2011, the NRC completed its mid-cycle performance review of Hope Creek Generating Station. The NRC reviewed the most recent quarterly performance indicators (PIs) in addition to inspection results and enforcement actions from July 1, 2010, through June 30, 2011. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of your facility during this period and its plans for future inspections at your facility. This performance review and enclosed inspection plan do not include security information. A separate letter will include the NRC's assessment of your performance in the Security Cornerstone and its security-related inspection plan.

The NRC determined the performance at Hope Creek Generating Station during the most recent quarter was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Action Matrix because all inspection findings had very low (i.e., green) safety significance, and all PIs indicated that your performance was within the nominal, expected range (i.e., green). Therefore, the NRC plans to conduct ROP baseline inspections at your facility.

The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through December 31, 2012. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. The inspections listed during the last nine months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the end-of-cycle performance review. The NRC provides the inspection plan to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues. In addition to the baseline inspections, we plan to conduct an inspection of your ISFSI. The NRC will contact you as soon as possible to discuss changes to the inspection plan should circumstances warrant any changes.

In the days following the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear accident in Japan, the Commission directed the staff to establish a senior-level agency task force to conduct a methodical and systematic review of the NRC's processes and regulations to determine whether the agency should make additional improvements to its regulatory system. The NRC has since completed Temporary Instruction (TI) 183, "Follow-up to Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Station Fuel Damage Event," and TI-184, "Availability and Readiness Inspection of Severe Accident Management Guidelines (SAMGs)" at your facility. Results of these inspections can be found here: <http://www.nrc.gov/japan/japan-activities.html>. Additionally, on May 11, 2011, the agency issued NRC Bulletin 2011-01, "Mitigating Strategies," to confirm compliance with Order

T. Joyce

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EA-02-026, subsequently imposed license conditions, and 10 CFR 50.54(hh)(2), and to determine the status of licensee mitigating strategies programs. On July 12, 2011, the NRC's Task Force made its recommendations to the Commission in its report, "Recommendations for Enhancing Reactor Safety in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: The Near-Term Task Force Review of Insights from the Fukushima Daiichi Accident." The NRC is currently reviewing the Task Force's recommendations to determine what additional actions may be warranted.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be 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).

Please contact me at 610-337-5069 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,



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

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

Enclosure: Inspection Plan

cc w/encl: Distribution via ListServ

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/RA/

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Distribution: see attached page

**SUNSI REVIEW COMPLETE: ALB (Reviewer's Initials) ML112411315**

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## Hope Creek

## Inspection / Activity Plan

07/01/2011 - 12/31/2012

Unit Number	Planned Dates Start End	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
		<b>71124 - REMP</b>		<b>1</b>
1	07/25/2011 07/29/2011	IP 71124.07	Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program	
		<b>71124 - HP</b>		<b>1</b>
1	09/19/2011 09/23/2011	IP 60855.1	Operation of an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation at Operating Plants	
1	09/19/2011 09/23/2011	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1	09/19/2011 09/23/2011	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1	09/19/2011 09/23/2011	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
		<b>3/05EXAM - HOPE CREEK INITIAL EXAM</b>		<b>4</b>
1	02/06/2012 02/10/2012	U01845	FY12-HOPE CREEK INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSING EXAM	
1	03/05/2012 03/16/2012	U01845	FY12-HOPE CREEK INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSING EXAM	
		<b>71124 - RADWASTE</b>		<b>1</b>
1	12/12/2011 12/16/2011	IP 71124.08	Radioactive Solid Waste Processing and Radioactive Material Handling, Storage, and Transportation	
		<b>71124.06 - PUB RAD SAFETY - RETS</b>		<b>1</b>
1	01/09/2012 01/13/2012	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
1	01/09/2012 01/13/2012	IP 71124.06	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment	
		<b>7111108G - INSERVICE INSPECTION</b>		<b>1</b>
1	04/23/2012 04/27/2012	IP 7111108G	Inservice Inspection Activities - BWR	
		<b>71124 - OCC RAD SAFETY</b>		<b>1</b>
1	04/23/2012 04/27/2012	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1	04/23/2012 04/27/2012	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
		<b>EP EXER - EP EXERCISE EVALUATION</b>		<b>5</b>
1	05/21/2012 05/25/2012	IP 7111401	Exercise Evaluation	
1	05/21/2012 05/25/2012	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes	
		<b>71124 - RAD SAFETY</b>		<b>1</b>
1	07/16/2012 07/20/2012	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1	07/16/2012 07/20/2012	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	07/16/2012 07/20/2012	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1	07/16/2012 07/20/2012	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
		<b>7111121 - CDBI</b>		<b>6</b>
1	07/30/2012 08/03/2012	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
1	08/13/2012 08/17/2012	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
1	08/27/2012 08/31/2012	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
		<b>7111111B - REQUAL INSPECTION WITH P/F RESULTS</b>		<b>2</b>
1	10/08/2012 10/12/2012	IP 7111111B	Licensed Operator Requalification Program	

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

Hope Creek  
Inspection / Activity Plan  
07/01/2011 - 12/31/2012

Unit Number	Planned Dates Start	Planned Dates End	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
			<b>71124</b>	<b>- RAD SAFETY &amp; ISFSI</b>	<b>1</b>
1	09/10/2012	09/14/2012	IP 60855.1	Operation of an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation at Operating Plants	
1	09/10/2012	09/14/2012	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1	09/10/2012	09/14/2012	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	09/10/2012	09/14/2012	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
1	09/10/2012	09/14/2012	IP 71151-OR01	Occupational Exposure Control Effectiveness	
1	09/10/2012	09/14/2012	IP 71151-PR01	RETS/ODCM Radiological Effluent	

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