



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION I**  
2100 RENAISSANCE BOULEVARD, SUITE 100  
KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19406-2713

September 2, 2014

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

**SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR HOPE CREEK GENERATING  
STATION (REPORT 05000354/2014006)**

Dear Mr. Joyce:

On August 14, 2014, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed its mid-cycle performance review of Hope Creek Generating Station (Hope Creek). The NRC reviewed the most recent quarterly performance indicators in addition to inspection results and enforcement actions from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of your facility during this period and its plans for future inspections at your facility.

The NRC determined that overall, Hope Creek was operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and met all cornerstone objectives. The NRC determined the performance at Hope Creek during the most recent quarter was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process Action Matrix because all inspection findings had very low (i.e., green) safety significance, and all performance indicators demonstrated that your performance was within the nominal, expected range (i.e., green). Therefore, the NRC plans to conduct Reactor Oversight Process baseline inspections at your facility.

As a result of the Safety Culture Common Language Initiative, the terminology and coding of cross-cutting aspects were revised. All cross-cutting aspects identified during inspections conducted in calendar year 2014 reflect this revision to Inspection Manual Chapter (IMC) 0310. Cross-cutting aspects identified in 2013 using the 2013 terminology were converted to the latest revision in accordance with the cross-reference in IMC 0310 during the mid-cycle assessment review and evaluated for cross-cutting themes and potential substantive cross-cutting issues in accordance with IMC 0305.

The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through December 31, 2015. 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. The NRC will contact you as soon as possible to discuss changes to the inspection plan should circumstances warrant any changes. This inspection plan does not include security related inspections, which will be sent via separate, non-publicly available correspondence.

In response to the accident at Fukushima, the Commission issued Order EA-12-049, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Requirements for Mitigation Strategies for Beyond-Design-Basis External Events," which requires licensees to develop, implement, and maintain guidance and strategies to maintain or restore core cooling, containment, and spent fuel pool cooling capabilities following a beyond-design-basis external event. Additionally, the Commission issued Order EA-12-051, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Reliable Spent Fuel Pool Instrumentation," which requires licensees to have a reliable means of remotely monitoring wide-range Spent Fuel Pool levels to support effective prioritization of event mitigation and recovery actions in the event of a beyond-design-basis external event. The NRC is conducting audits of licensee efforts towards compliance with these Orders. This audit includes an onsite component in order for the NRC to evaluate licensee plans for complying with the Orders, as described in site-specific submittals, and to receive and review information relative to associated open items. This onsite activity will occur in the months prior to a declaration of compliance for the first unit at each site, and will aid staff in development of an ultimate Safety Evaluation for the site. The date for the onsite component at your site is being coordinated with your staff. A site-specific audit plan for the visit will be provided in advance to allow sufficient time for preparations.

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), Part 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 component of the NRC's Agencywide Document Access and Management 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) 337-5233 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Glenn T. Dentel, Chief  
Projects Branch 3  
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos.: 50-354  
License No.: NPF-57

Enclosure: Inspection Plan

cc w/encl: Distribution via ListServ

In response to the accident at Fukushima, the Commission issued Order EA-12-049, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Requirements for Mitigation Strategies for Beyond-Design-Basis External Events," which requires licensees to develop, implement, and maintain guidance and strategies to maintain or restore core cooling, containment, and spent fuel pool cooling capabilities following a beyond-design-basis external event. Additionally, the Commission issued Order EA-12-051, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Reliable Spent Fuel Pool Instrumentation," which requires licensees to have a reliable means of remotely monitoring wide-range Spent Fuel Pool levels to support effective prioritization of event mitigation and recovery actions in the event of a beyond-design-basis external event. The NRC is conducting audits of licensee efforts towards compliance with these Orders. This audit includes an onsite component in order for the NRC to evaluate licensee plans for complying with the Orders, as described in site-specific submittals, and to receive and review information relative to associated open items. This onsite activity will occur in the months prior to a declaration of compliance for the first unit at each site, and will aid staff in development of an ultimate Safety Evaluation for the site. The date for the onsite component at your site is being coordinated with your staff. A site-specific audit plan for the visit will be provided in advance to allow sufficient time for preparations.

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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SUNSI Review		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Sensitive <input type="checkbox"/> Sensitive		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Publicly Available <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Publicly Available	
OFFICE	RI/DRP	RI/DRP	RI/DRP		
NAME	JHawkins/ per email MSD	MDraxton/ MSD	GDentel/ GTD		
DATE	08/25/14	08/25/14	08/27/14		

**Hope Creek**  
**Inspection / Activity Plan**  
**07/01/2014 - 12/31/2015**

Unit Number	Planned Dates		Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
	Start	End			
<b>INSP - RADIATION PROTECTION</b>					
1	07/21/2014	07/25/2014	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	1
1	07/21/2014	07/25/2014	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	07/21/2014	07/25/2014	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1	07/21/2014	07/25/2014	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
1	07/21/2014	07/25/2014	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
<b>7111107T - TRIENNIAL HEAT SINK</b>					
1	07/28/2014	08/01/2014	IP 7111107T	Heat Sink Performance	1
<b>7111111B - REQUAL INSP WITH P/F RESULTS</b>					
1	10/06/2014	10/10/2014	IP 7111111B	Licensed Operator Requalification Program	2
<b>INSP - RADIATION PROTECTION</b>					
1	08/11/2014	08/15/2014	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	1
1	08/11/2014	08/15/2014	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	08/11/2014	08/15/2014	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1	08/11/2014	08/15/2014	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
1	08/11/2014	08/15/2014	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
<b>71124 - REMP</b>					
1	08/25/2014	08/29/2014	IP 71124.07	Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program	1
<b>2/16EXM - INITIAL OL EXAM</b>					
1	01/26/2015	01/30/2015	U01904	FY15-HOPE CREEK INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSING EXAM	4
1	02/23/2015	02/27/2015	U01904	FY15-HOPE CREEK INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSING EXAM	
<b>71124 - RADIATION PROTECTION</b>					
1	12/01/2014	12/05/2014	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	1
1	12/01/2014	12/05/2014	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	12/01/2014	12/05/2014	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1	12/01/2014	12/05/2014	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
1	12/01/2014	12/05/2014	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
1	12/01/2014	12/05/2014	IP 71151-OR01		
<b>PI&amp;R - PI&amp;R - BIENNIAL</b>					
1	01/26/2015	01/30/2015	IP 71152B	Problem Identification and Resolution	1
1	02/09/2015	02/13/2015	IP 71152B	Problem Identification and Resolution	
<b>71124 - RAD CONTROLS</b>					
1	03/30/2015	04/04/2015	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	1

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

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	Start	End			
<b>71124 - RAD CONTROLS</b>					<b>1</b>
1	03/30/2015	04/04/2015	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	03/30/2015	04/04/2015	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1	03/30/2015	04/04/2015	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
1	03/30/2015	04/04/2015	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
<b>7111108G - INSERVICE INSPECTION</b>					<b>1</b>
1	04/20/2015	04/24/2015	IP 7111108G	Inservice Inspection Activities - BWR	
<b>71124 - RAD CONTROLS</b>					<b>1</b>
1	04/20/2015	04/24/2015	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1	04/20/2015	04/24/2015	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	04/20/2015	04/24/2015	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1	04/20/2015	04/24/2015	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
1	04/20/2015	04/24/2015	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
<b>71124 - EFFLUENTS</b>					<b>1</b>
1	05/11/2015	05/15/2015	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
1	05/11/2015	05/15/2015	IP 71124.06	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment	
<b>EP - EP PROGRAM INSPECTION</b>					<b>1</b>
1	06/22/2015	06/26/2015	IP 7111402	Alert and Notification System Testing	
1	06/22/2015	06/26/2015	IP 7111403	Emergency Preparedness Organization Staffing and Augmentation System	
1	06/22/2015	06/26/2015	IP 7111405	Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies	
<b>71124 - RAD CONTROLS</b>					<b>1</b>
1	08/10/2015	08/14/2015	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1	08/10/2015	08/14/2015	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	08/10/2015	08/14/2015	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1	08/10/2015	08/14/2015	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
1	08/10/2015	08/14/2015	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
<b>CDBI - COMPONENT DESIGN BASIS INSPECTION</b>					<b>6</b>
1	09/21/2015	09/25/2015	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
1	10/05/2015	10/09/2015	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
1	10/19/2015	10/23/2015	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
<b>71124.08 - RADWASTE</b>					<b>1</b>
1	12/07/2015	12/11/2015	IP 71124.08	Radioactive Solid Waste Processing and Radioactive Material Handling, Storage, and Transportation	

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	Start	End			
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1	12/07/2015	12/11/2015	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	1
1	12/07/2015	12/11/2015	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	12/07/2015	12/11/2015	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
1	12/07/2015	12/11/2015	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	

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