

March 30, 2001

Mr. Robert G. Byram  
Senior Vice President  
and Chief Nuclear Officer  
PPL Susquehanna, LLC  
2 North Ninth Street  
Allentown, PA 18101

SUBJECT: SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2 - ISSUANCE  
OF AMENDMENT RE: ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES TO THE TECHNICAL  
SPECIFICATIONS (TAC NOS. MA8049 AND MA8050)

Dear Mr. Byram:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 192 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-14 and Amendment No. 167 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-22 for the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station (SSES), Units 1 and 2. These amendments consist of changes to the Technical Specifications (TSs) in response to the application by PP&L, Inc., dated January 13, 2000, as supplemented by PPL Susquehanna, LLC's, letter dated September 6, 2000. These amendments make administrative changes to the TSs, correcting the wording of the legends in Figure 3.4.10.1, "Reactor Vessel Pressure vs. Minimum Vessel Temperature," for both units, and correcting administrative errors in Section 5.6.5.b, regarding the Core Operating Limits Report for Unit 2.

On July 1, 2000, the licenses held by PP&L, Inc., for SSES Units 1 and 2 were transferred to PPL Susquehanna, LLC. By letter dated February 22, 2001, PPL Susquehanna, LLC, requested that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission continue to review and act upon all requests before the Commission which had been submitted by PP&L, Inc.

A copy of our safety evaluation is also enclosed. Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's Biweekly *Federal Register* Notice.

Sincerely,

**/RA/L. Burkhart for**

Robert G. Schaaf, Project Manager, Section 1  
Project Directorate I  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-387 and 50-388

Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. 192 to  
License No. NPF-14  
2. Amendment No. 167 to  
License No. NPF-22  
3. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

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**/RA/L. Burkhardt for**

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ACCESSION NO: ML010110204

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OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

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PPL SUSQUEHANNA, LLC

ALLEGHENY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

DOCKET NO. 50-387

SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNIT 1

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 192

License No. NPF-14

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission or the NRC) having found that:
  - A. The application for the amendment filed by PP&L, Inc. (the licensee before July 1, 2000), dated January 13, 2000, as supplemented by letter dated September 6, 2000, submitted by PPL Susquehanna, LLC (the licensee on and after July 1, 2000), complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
  - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the regulations of the Commission;
  - C. There is reasonable assurance: (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
  - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
  - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.

2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment and paragraph 2.C.(2) of the Facility Operating License No. NPF-14 is hereby amended to read as follows:

(2) Technical Specifications and Environmental Protection Plan

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 192 and the Environmental Protection Plan contained in Appendix B, are hereby incorporated in the license. PPL Susquehanna, LLC, shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications and the Environmental Protection Plan.

3. This license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance and shall be implemented within 30 days of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

***/RA/P. Tam for***

Marsha Gamberoni, Chief, Section 1  
Project Directorate I  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment: Changes to the Technical  
Specifications

Date of Issuance: March 30, 2001

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 192

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-14

DOCKET NO. 50-387

Replace the following page of the Technical Specifications with the attached revised page. The revised page is identified by amendment number and contains marginal lines indicating the areas of change.

REMOVE

3.4-30

INSERT

3.4-30

PPL SUSQUEHANNA, LLC

ALLEGHENY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

DOCKET NO. 50-388

SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNIT 2

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 167  
License No. NPF-22

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission or the NRC) having found that:
  - A. The application for the amendment filed by PP&L, Inc. (the licensee before July 1, 2000), dated January 13, 2000, as supplemented by letter dated September 6, 2000, submitted by PPL Susquehanna, LLC (the licensee on and after July 1, 2000), complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
  - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the regulations of the Commission;
  - C. There is reasonable assurance: (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
  - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
  - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.

2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment and paragraph 2.C.(2) of the Facility Operating License No. NPF-22 is hereby amended to read as follows:

(2) Technical Specifications and Environmental Protection Plan

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 167 and the Environmental Protection Plan contained in Appendix B, are hereby incorporated in the license. PPL Susquehanna, LLC, shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications and the Environmental Protection Plan.

3. This license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance and shall be implemented within 30 days of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

***/RA/P Tam for***

Marsha Gamberoni, Chief, Section 1  
Project Directorate I  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment: Changes to the Technical  
Specifications

Date of Issuance: March 30, 2001



ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 167

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-22

DOCKET NO. 50-388

Replace the following pages of the Technical Specifications with the attached revised pages. The revised pages are identified by amendment number and contain marginal lines indicating the areas of change.

REMOVE

3.4-30  
5.0-22

INSERT

3.4-30  
5.0.22

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION  
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 192 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-14  
AMENDMENT NO. 167 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-22  
PPL SUSQUEHANNA, LLC  
ALLEGHENY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.  
SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2  
DOCKET NOS. 50-387 AND 388

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated January 13, 2000, PP&L, Inc. (the licensee before July 1, 2000), submitted a request for changes to the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Units 1 and 2, Technical Specifications (TSs). A supplement, dated September 6, 2000, submitted by PPL Susquehanna, LLC (the licensee on and after July 1, 2000), clarified parts of the original application. The requested changes are administrative, correcting the wording of the legends in Figure 3.4.10.1, "Reactor Vessel Pressure vs. Minimum Vessel Temperature" for both units, and correcting administrative errors in Section 5.6.5.b, regarding Core Operating Limits Report (COLR), for Unit 2.

The staff has previously issued a proposed finding that the amendments involve no significant hazards consideration (65 FR 17918, dated April 5, 2000). The September 6, 2000, submittal is clarifying in nature, and does not change the initial proposed no significant hazards consideration determination or expand the amendment beyond the initial notice.

## 2.0 EVALUATION

### 2.1 Proposed Changes to Figure 3.4.10-1 for Both Units

Figure 3.4.10-1 of the TSs governs pressure and temperature limits (P-T limits). These non-beltline P-T limits curves are composite curves established by superimposing stress analysis limits for those portions of the reactor pressure vessel (RPV) onto the most restrictive portions of the RPV (i.e., feedwater nozzles for the upper vessel region and control rod drive (CRD) penetrations for the bottom head region). The licensee stated that development of these curves has evolved and now includes consideration of the highest nil ductility temperature among all of the vessel nozzles and other non-beltline component materials. This value is then applied to the appropriate feedwater nozzle or CRD penetration limit. The technical basis of this methodology was evaluated by the staff in the safety evaluation associated with Amendment No. 116 (for Unit 1) and 85 (for Unit 2), dated January 10, 1992.

The licensee stated, in its September 6, 2000, letter, that it intends to revise the legends on Figure 3.4.10-1 of the TSs, as well as figures associated with Section 5.3.1.5 of the FSAR, to more accurately reflect the technical basis described in the above paragraph. Specifically, the licensee proposed to revise "non-beltline limits with recirc. inlet nozzle  $RT_{NDT}$  of 40° for B&C: CRD penetration  $RT_{NDT}$  of 34° for A" to read "A, B, C - non-beltline limits and 10 CFR 50 Appendix G requirements."

The licensee also proposed to correct the legend referring to curve B, changing it from "non-nuclear heating limit" to read "non-nuclear heatup/cool-down limit."

The licensee did not propose to make substantive changes to these figures in any way; the curves in Figure 3.4.10-1 were last changed by Amendment No. 116 (for Unit 1) and 85 (for Unit 2), and will remain unchanged by the current proposed amendment. Only the legends associated with the curves are revised. The licensee's proposed revisions to the TSs and FSAR will accurately reflect previously approved methodology. Accordingly, the NRC staff finds the proposed revisions to the legends acceptable.

The TSs Bases document is a licensee-controlled document, and is not part of the TSs. The licensee will update appropriate text of that document to reflect these approved changes to TS Figure 3.4.10-1.

## 2.2 Proposed Changes to Section 5.6.5 for Unit 2

The licensee proposed to correct Section 5.6.5, "Core Operating Limits Report (COLR)," by correcting the dates of the supplements to an existing reference. The corrected text reads:

4. XN-NF-80-19(A), Volume 1, and Volume 1 Supplements 1 and 2 (March 1983), and Volume 1, Supplement 3 (November 1990), "Exxon Nuclear Methodology for Boiling Water Reactors: Neutronic Methods for Design and Analysis," Exxon Nuclear Company, Inc.

The NRC staff verified the dates of these documents in its own official records (NUDOCS), and confirmed the correctness of the information. These changes are purely editorial and are acceptable.

## 3.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, Pennsylvania State official, Mr. Rick Janati, was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendments. The State official had no comments.

## 4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.21, 51.32, and 51.35, an environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact has been prepared and published in the *Federal Register* on March 29, 2001, (66 FR17206) for this proposed amendment. Accordingly, based upon the environmental assessment, the staff has determined that issuance of this amendment will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

## 5.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendments will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributors: A. Lee  
P. Tam

Date: March 30, 2001