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Gentlemen:

2000 ANNUAL ENVIRONMENTAL OPERATING REPORT
HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION
FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-57
DOCKET NO. 50-354

The attached 2000 Annual Environmental Operating Report is hereby submitted pursuant to Subsection 5.4.1 of the Environmental Protection Plan (Non-radiological) for Hope Creek Generating Station. The Environmental Protection Plan is Appendix B to Facility Operating License NPF-57 (Docket No. 50-354).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gabor Salamon" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Gabor Salamon
Manager-Nuclear Safety & Licensing

/dkh
Attachment (1)

Handwritten initials in black ink, possibly "JL" or "JS", with a large "5" at the end.

APR 30 2001

C Mr. Hubert J. Miller, Administrator - Region I
 U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
 475 Allendale Road
 King of Prussia, PA 19406

 Mr. Rick Ennis, Licensing Project Manager - HC
 U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
 One White Flint North
 11555 Rockville Pike
 Mail Stop 8B1
 Rockville, MD 20852

 USNRC Senior Resident Inspector - Hope Creek
 Mail Code (X24)

 Mr. K. Tosch, Manager, IV
 Bureau of Nuclear Engineering
 P.O. Box 415
 Trenton, NJ 08625

2000 ANNUAL ENVIRONMENTAL OPERATING REPORT
(NON-RADIOLOGICAL)
January 1 through December 31, 2000

HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION
DOCKET NO. 50-354
OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-57

PSEG NUCLEAR LLC
P.O. BOX 236
HANCOCKS BRIDGE, NEW JERSEY 08038

APRIL 2001

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

This 2000 Annual Environmental Operating Report (AEOR) for the Hope Creek Generating Station was prepared in accordance with Subsection 5.4.1 of Appendix B to Facility Operating License No. NPF-57, Environmental Protection Plan (Non-radiological). The reporting requirements of the Environmental Protection Plan (EPP) became effective April 11, 1986, with the issuance of the initial Hope Creek Operating License (NPF-57).

This is the 15th AEOR submitted for Hope Creek Generating Station. It corresponds to the reporting period January 1, 2000 to December 31, 2000. Hope Creek Generating Station produced 7,271,736 megawatt-hours of net electrical energy during this period.

As required by Subsection 5.4.1 of the EPP, we have included summaries and analyses of all required environmental protection activities. This information is described in Section 2.0. Section 3.0 addresses the issue of EPP compliance. Changes to station design or operation and the review for potentially significant unreviewed environmental questions are addressed in Section 4.0. Administrative review procedures and unusual and/or important environmental events are discussed in Section 5.0.

2.0 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACTIVITIES

2.1 AQUATIC ISSUES

Subsection 4.2.1 of the EPP references the Clean Water Act as the mechanism for protecting aquatic biota through water quality monitoring. The United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission (USNRC) relies upon the State of New Jersey, acting under the authority of the Clean Water Act, to insure applicable requirements for aquatic monitoring are implemented. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) is the state's regulatory agency.

The state of New Jersey requires as part of their New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NJPDES) permit program that effluent monitoring be performed, with the results summarized and submitted monthly on Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) forms. The monitoring is intended to determine compliance with permit (NJPDES No. NJ0025411) effluent limitations. We have reviewed the DMR's corresponding to the 2000 AEOR reporting period and have determined that no significant deviations have occurred. Copies of monthly DMR's are routinely sent to USNRC's Document Control Desk and additional copies are available upon request.

In March 1990, PSEG NUCLEAR LLC submitted an application to the NJDEP for renewal of the Station's NJPDES permit, which was to expire on September 30, 1990. In support of this permit application, PSEG NUCLEAR LLC submitted a supplement to the application on August 19, 1991, which contained additional data not provided in the original application and updated and clarified previously submitted information. On May 5, 1995, PSEG NUCLEAR LLC submitted a further amendment to the 1990 application to update system descriptions, submit current analytical data and provide current information in support of the NJPDES permit renewal.

On February 19, 1997, the NJDEP issued the Final NJPDES Permit with no substantive changes from the Draft Permit. The Final NJPDES Permit became effective on April 1, 1997. Changes to the permit include modified monitoring requirements based on historical analytical results, a new requirement for development and implementation of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan, a requirement to reroute the effluent from the Sewage Treatment Plant to discharge with the Cooling Tower Blowdown to utilize inherent dechlorination capabilities, and a requirement to perform special studies for Effluent Chronic and Acute Toxicity and Cooling Tower Total Suspended Solids. The Sewage Treatment Plant rerouting is complete. The Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan has been implemented. The Cooling Tower Total Suspended Solids Study is complete and the results have been submitted to the NJDEP for review. The requirement to perform Chronic and Acute Toxicity testing is complete and the NJDEP has removed the requirement to conduct any further testing at this time.

While the NRC relies on the State of New Jersey for protection of the water quality, the National Marine Fisheries Service maintains regulatory authority with respect to certain migratory threatened and endangered aquatic species. On May 15, 1993 the NMFS issued a revised Section 7 Consultation, Biological Opinion. The revision removed all requirements for marine life monitoring at the Hope Creek Generating Station. This revision was incorporated into the Facility Operating License No. NPF-57 through Amendment No. 60.

2.2 TERRESTRIAL ISSUES

PSEG NUCLEAR LLC has been voluntarily monitoring the osprey population that nest on our transmission towers through a joint effort with the NJDEP since 1989.

3.0 EPP COMPLIANCE STATUS

3.1 EPP NONCOMPLIANCES

Subsection 5.4.1 of the EPP requires a list of EPP noncompliances and the corrective actions taken to remedy them. No previously unreviewed environmental impacts attributable to the operation of the Hope Creek Generating Station were observed during 2000. Likewise, there were no instances of noncompliance with the EPP.

3.2 REVIEW

Subsection 5.1 of the EPP for Hope Creek Generating Station requires that an independent review of compliance with the EPP be maintained and made available for inspection. The EPP was last reviewed as part of the Self-Assessment Program in 1999.

4.0 CHANGES IN STATION DESIGN OR OPERATION

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 3.1 of the EPP, station design/operational changes during the time period covered by this report were reviewed for potential environmental impact. None of the recommended changes posed a potential to significantly affect the environment, and therefore, none involved an unreviewed environmental question or a change in the EPP.

5.0 NONROUTINE REPORTS

Subsection 5.4.1 of the EPP requires that a list of nonroutine reports submitted to the NRC during 2000 be included with this report. No environmentally related nonroutine reports were submitted to the USNRC in 2000.

Hope Creek Generating Station experienced no unusual or important events that indicated or could have resulted in a "significant environmental impact" during the 2000 reporting period.