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LRN-01-0279

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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Gentlemen:

**REVISION TO IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE AND WITHDRAWAL OF
LICENSE CHANGE REQUEST
GENERIC LETTER 94-02/LCR H00-07
HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION
FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NPF-57
DOCKET NO. 50-354**

As part of the response to Generic Letter (GL) 94-02, "Long-Term Solutions and Upgrade of Interim Operating Recommendations for Thermal Hydraulic Instabilities in Boiling Water Reactors," PSEG Nuclear committed to install a Long Term Solution Stability System Oscillation Power Range Monitor (OPRM). By letter dated November 16, 1999, PSEG Nuclear provided a revised schedule to complete installation of the OPRM during the tenth refueling outage. The OPRM is currently installed with the trip function disabled.

By letter dated November 29, 2000, PSEG Nuclear submitted a license change request (LCR H00-07) to revise the Technical Specifications for the Hope Creek Generating Station to include requirements for the OPRM. By letter dated August 10, 2001, PSEG Nuclear provided additional information in response to requests from the NRC staff.

For Hope Creek Cycle 11, the analytical value for the period based algorithm amplitude trip setpoint S_p was determined to be 1.083 in accordance with the methodology described in NEDO-32465. The corresponding value of the confirmation count trip setpoint N_p from NEDO-32465 is 10.

In 10 CFR 21 reports to the NRC dated June 29, 2001 and August 31, 2001, the General Electric Company (GE) identified a deficiency in the OPRM setpoint methodology which affects the Hope Creek OPRM trip setpoints. After reviewing the information in the 10 CFR 21 reports, PSEG Nuclear concluded that implementation of the OPRM trip function as described in LCR H00-07 would require it to be declared inoperable immediately after implementation. We have determined the prudent course of action to be deferral of the OPRM trip function implementation until the issue of setpoint methodology is resolved and an applicable approved methodology is in place.

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Based on the projected time required to resolve this issue, we hereby withdraw LCR H00-07. Based upon discussions with the NRC Licensing Project Manager for Hope Creek, PSEG Nuclear understands that the NRC staff will provide a draft Safety Evaluation documenting the completed portions of its review. Within 90 days of NRC approval of the revised setpoint methodology for Option III detect and suppress trip systems, we will submit a revised license change request and schedule for enabling the OPRM trip function.

Hope Creek will continue to operate under the Interim Corrective Actions (ICAs) described in our response to Generic Letter 94-02 until the OPRM trip function is enabled and revised Technical Specifications are implemented. The ICAs include restrictions on plant operation and procedural requirements for operator action in response to an instability event. They provide an acceptable method of ensuring adequate margin to the Minimum Critical Power Ratio safety limit until the long term solution Option III trip system is enabled.

Should you have any questions regarding this submittal, please contact Mr. Paul Duke at (856) 339-1466.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David F. Garchow". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "David" and last name "Garchow" clearly distinguishable.

David F. Garchow
Vice President - Operations

C Mr. H. Miller, Administrator - Region I
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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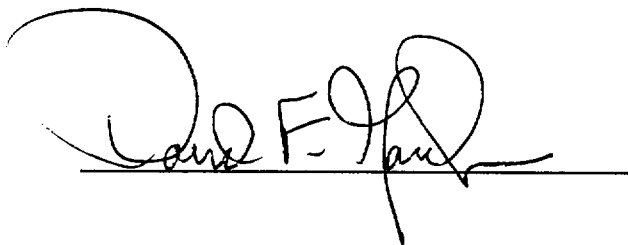
USNRC Senior Resident Inspector - HC (X24)

Mr. K. Tosch, Manager IV
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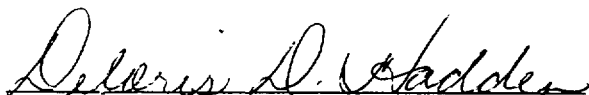
STATE OF NEW JERSEY)
) SS.
COUNTY OF SALEM)

David F. Garchow being duly sworn according to law deposes and says:

I am Vice President – Operations of PSEG Nuclear LLC, and as such, I find the matters set forth in the above referenced letter, concerning Hope Creek Generating Station, Unit 1, are true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.



Subscribed and Sworn to before me
this 19th day of October, 2001


Notary Public of New Jersey

DELORIS D. HADDEN
Notary Public of New Jersey
My Commission Expires 03-29-2005
ID # 2073649

My Commission expires on _____