

JUL 11 2003
LRN-03-0312
LCR H03-05



U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555-0001

REQUEST FOR EXPEDITED REVIEW OF LCR H03-05 (LRN-03-0217)
CHANGE TO TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS
CONTROL ROOM EMERGENCY FILTRATION SYSTEM
HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION
FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NPF-57
DOCKET NO. 50-354

Reference: Letter LR-N03-0217, *Request For Change To Technical Specifications*
Control Room Emergency Filtration System, dated July 9, 2003.

In early 2003, PSEG Nuclear LLC (PSEG) identified that the "A" Control Area Chiller (AK400) had begun to exhibit unacceptable fluctuations in oil reservoir level. These fluctuations are attributed to compressor/motor labyrinth seal degradation. The worn seals are inhibiting the process by which oil returns to the reservoir during the machine's freon cycle under decreased cooling load conditions. Similarly, the current condition of the seals has resulted in rapid return of oil as cooling load increased and caused unexpected chiller trips on high bearing temperature. At this time, since the majority of oil has been removed from the refrigerant due to high cooling loads associated with the summer months, the chiller is operable but degraded. Although the chiller is operable, these fluctuations are expected to return as the Fall 2003 season approaches. This represents an undesirable condition, which could result in failure of the unit. Maintaining proper oil level in the reservoir could require operators to perform numerous additions/removals of oil from the reservoir. This operation is very time consuming, which could cause a significant distraction and burden to the operators that could potentially create an error likely situation.

The repairs of the chiller require a complete disassembly of the compressor as well as the removal of the outboard motor bearing assembly. This evolution is expected to require between ten to fifteen days to complete. Furthermore, due to the expertise required, extensive nature of the work, the time required to prepare repair work packages, ensure required parts are available and, procure long lead time parts, PSEG decided not to execute the repair when identified during the 2003 Hope Creek refueling

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outage. Therefore, scheduling of a maintenance window to overhaul the compressor was identified as best commencing on September 15, 2003. In addition, the time frame for the repair window (September vs. November) was influenced by the planned October 2003 Salem Unit 2 refueling outage and undesirable weather conditions expected to exacerbate the condition. Since normal license amendments require from six months to one year for approval, PSEG is requesting an expedited review for this license amendment with approval by September 10, 2003.

The following is provided for information only and is not intended to supplement our July 9, 2003 Technical Specification change request. A plant specific probabilistic risk analysis (PRA) was performed to assure that the allowable outage time extension was not risk significant. The PRA model with nominal test and maintenance (T&M) unavailability values was utilized. The delta core damage frequency (CDF) was calculated to be $1.95\text{E-}8$ per 30 days and the delta large early release fraction (LERF) was calculated to be $1.25\text{E-}9$ per 30 days. The result is a small quantitative impact on plant risk.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Mr. Michael Mosier at (856) 339-5434.

Sincerely,



Gabor Salamon
Manager – Nuclear Safety and Licensing

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