

December 7, 2005

Mr. Britt T. McKinney
Sr. Vice President
and Chief Nuclear Officer
PPL Susquehanna, LLC
769 Salem Blvd., NUCSB3
Berwick, PA 18603-0467

SUBJECT: SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2 - ISSUANCE
OF AMENDMENT RE: REVISION TO TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION 5.5.6
(TAC NOS. MC6202 AND MC6203)

Dear Mr. McKinney:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 228 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-14 and Amendment No. 204 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-22 for the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Units 1 and 2. These amendments consist of changes to the Technical Specification (TS) 5.5.6 in response to your application dated January 28, 2005.

These amendments replace the reference to American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (ASME Code) with a reference to ASME Code for Operation and Maintenance of Nuclear Power Plants in TS 5.5.6.

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

Sincerely,

/RA/

Richard V. Guzman, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch I-1
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-387 and 50-388

Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. 228 to
License No. NPF-14
2. Amendment No. 204 to
License No. NPF-22
3. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

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PUBLIC LPLI-1 RF RLaufer RGuzman SLittle
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* Input provided by memo. No substantial changes made.

ADAMS Accession Number: ML053140432

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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. 228
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 PPL Susquehanna, LLC, dated January 28, 2005, 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. 228 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.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

/RA/

Richard J. Laufer, Chief
Plant Licensing Branch I-1
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment: Changes to the Technical
Specifications

Date of Issuance: December 7, 2005

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 228

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-14

DOCKET NO. 50-387

Replace the following page of the Appendix A 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
TS/5.0-11

INSERT
TS/5.0-11

PPL SUSQUEHANNA, LLC

ALLEGHENY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

DOCKET NO. 50-388

SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNIT 2

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 204
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 the PPL Susquehanna, LLC, dated January 28, 2005, 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. 204 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.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

/RA/

Richard J. Laufer, Chief
Plant Licensing Branch I-1
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment: Changes to the Technical
Specifications

Date of Issuance: December 7, 2005

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 204

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-22

DOCKET NO. 50-388

Replace the following page of the Appendix A 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
TS/5.0-11

INSERT
TS/5.0-11

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 228 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-14
AND AMENDMENT NO. 204 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 application dated January 28, 2005 (Accession No. ML050390336), PPL Susquehanna, LLC (the licensee), requested changes to the Technical Specifications (TSs) for Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Units 1 and 2 (SSES 1 and 2).

The proposed changes would revise the reference to American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (ASME Code) with a reference to ASME Code for Operation and Maintenance of Nuclear Power Plants in TS 5.5.6.

Specifically, the proposed changes would revise the inservice testing (IST) requirements from the ASME Code, Section XI to ASME Operation and Maintenance (OM) Code and applicable addenda. This would eliminate the ASME Code inconsistency between the IST program and the TSs as required by Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Section 50.55a(f)(5)(ii). TS Section 5.5.6, IST program, and the associated TS Bases would be revised under this TS amendment.

2.0 REGULATORY EVALUATION

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) finds that PPL Susquehanna, LLC, in its January 28, 2005, submittal, identified the applicable regulatory requirements. 10 CFR 50.55a(f)(5)(ii) requires that, if a revised IST program for a facility conflicts with the TSs for that facility, the licensee may apply to the NRC for amendment of the TSs to conform the TS to the revised program. The licensee is required to submit the application, as specified in 10 CFR 50.4, at least 6 months before the start of the period during which the provisions become applicable, as determined by 10 CFR 50.55a(f)(4).

3.0 TECHNICAL EVALUATION

3.1 Specific Changes Requested

The licensee has proposed the following changes to the TSs:

1. For TS Section 5.5.6, Inservice Inspection Program, the reference to “ASME Boiler & Vessel Code, Section XI” for inservice testing requirements would be replaced with “ASME OM Code” in the following TS Sections: 5.5.6.a, and 5.5.6.d.
2. The associated TS Surveillance Requirements (SR) Bases Sections SR 3.4.3.1, SR 3.4.5.1, SR 3.5.1.7, SR 3.5.1.8, SR 3.5.1.9, and SR 3.6.2.3.2 would be revised to change the reference from “ASME Boiler & Vessel Code, Section XI” to “ASME OM Code” for consistency with the TS changes.

3.2 Basis for Changes

TS 5.5.6 IST program establishes the surveillance requirements for IST of ASME Class 1, 2, and 3 components for SSES Units 1 and 2. TS Section 5.5.6 currently references to ASME, Section XI, as the source of requirements for the IST of ASME Code Class 1, 2, and 3 pumps and valves.

The regulations in 10 CFR 50.55a(f)(4) establish the effective Code edition and addenda to be used by licensees for performing IST of pumps and valves. The regulations in 10 CFR 50.55a(f)(4)(ii) require licensees to update their IST program to the latest approved edition of the ASME OM Code incorporated by reference into 10 CFR 50.55a(b).

Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(f)(4)(ii), PPL Susquehanna, LLC submitted its third 10-year interval IST programs for SSES Units 1 and 2, to meet the requirements of the 1998 Edition through 2000 Addenda of the ASME OM Code, to the NRC in a letter dated May 28, 2004. The IST programs for the third interval were updated to comply with the appropriate revisions of the ASME OM Code and included the 1998 Edition, the 1999 Addenda and the 2000 Addenda as the new Code of Record for performing IST at SSES Units 1 and 2. As a consequence, the TS 5.5.6 reference to Section XI of the ASME Code results in a reference to a deleted portion of the Code.

According to 10 CFR 50.55a(f)(5)(ii), if a revised IST program for a facility conflicts with the TS for the facility, the licensee is required to apply to the NRC for amendment of the TS to conform the TS to the revised program. The licensee must submit the application, as specified in 10 CFR 50.4, at least 6 months before the start of the period during which the provisions become applicable as determined by 10 CFR 50.55a(f)(4).

Since TS 5.5.6 and several other TS reference ASME Code, Section XI for the IST requirements for pumps and valves, the TSs for SSES 1 and 2 require revision to change the IST Code references from ASME Code, Section XI to the ASME OM Code.

3.3 Evaluation

In 1990, the ASME published the initial edition of the ASME OM Code, which provides requirements for IST of pumps and valves. The OM Code was developed and is maintained by the ASME Committee on Operation and Maintenance of Nuclear Power Plants. The ASME OM Code was developed in response to the ASME Board on Nuclear Codes and Standards directive that transferred responsibility for development and maintenance of rules for the IST of pumps and valves from the ASME Code, Section XI, Subcommittee on Nuclear Inservice Inspection to the ASME OM Committee. The ASME intended the ASME OM Code to replace Section XI rules for IST of pumps and valves, and the Section XI rules for IST of pumps and valves that had been incorporated by reference into NRC regulations have been deleted from Section XI.

Section 50.55a(f) "Inservice Testing Requirements," requires, in part, that ASME Class 1, 2, and 3 components must meet the requirements of the ASME OM Code. The ASME publishes a new edition of the ASME OM Code every 3 years, and a new addendum every year. The SSES Units 1 and 2 third interval IST programs were updated to comply with the 1998 Edition through 2000 Addenda of the ASME OM Code as required by 10 CFR 50.55a(f)(4)(ii). As a consequence, the TS 5.5.6 reference to Section XI of the ASME Code for IST requirements results in a reference to a deleted portion of the ASME Code. The TS changes do not eliminate any IST and do not affect the licensee's responsibility to seek relief from Code test requirements when they are impractical. The changes will eliminate the ASME Code inconsistency between the IST program and the TS as required by 10 CFR 50.55a(f)(5)(ii). The proposed change of the ASME Code from "ASME Section XI" to "ASME OM Code" will maintain consistency with the Code requirements, therefore, the NRC staff finds this proposed change to be acceptable.

4.0 STATE CONSULTATION

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

5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendments change a requirement with respect to installation or use of a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. The NRC staff has determined that the amendments involve no significant increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types, of any effluents that may be released offsite, and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The Commission has previously issued a proposed finding that the amendments involve no significant hazards consideration, and there has been no public comment on such finding (70 FR 9994). Accordingly, the amendments meet the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b) no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendments.

6.0 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 Contributor: G. S. Bedi

Date: December 7, 2005