



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I**
475 ALLENDALE ROAD
KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19406-1415

March 1, 2012

Mr. Thomas P. Joyce
President and Chief Nuclear Officer
PSEG Nuclear LLC
P. O. Box 236
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

**SUBJECT: INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSING OPERATING TEST APPROVAL –
HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION**

Dear Mr. Joyce:

The purpose of this letter is to confirm the final arrangements for the upcoming operator licensing examinations for the operating test at Hope Creek. Please note that written examination approval will be communicated under separate correspondence.

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has completed its review of the operator license applications submitted in connection with this examination and separately provided a list of approved applicants to Mr. Ervin Parker, Director of Training. Note that any examination waivers have been addressed in separate correspondence.

The NRC approved the subject operating test in accordance with NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 9, Supplement 1 on March 1, 2012. The NRC staff will administer the operating tests during the week of March 5, 2012. This examination has undergone extensive review by my staff and representatives responsible for licensed operator training at your facility. Based on this review, I have concluded that the examination meets the guidelines of NUREG-1021 for content, operational, and discrimination validity. By administering this examination, you also agree that it meets NUREG-1021 guidelines, and is appropriate for measuring the qualifications of licensed operator applicants at your facility. If you determine that this examination is not appropriate for licensing operators at your facility, do not administer the examination and contact me at (610) 337-5306.

Please contact your Chief Examiner, Mr. T. Fish, at (610) 337-5369, if you have any questions or identify any errors or changes in the license level Reactor Operator (RO) or Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) or type of examination (partial or complete operating test) specified for each applicant.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Donald E. Jackson, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

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President and Chief Nuclear Officer
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/RA/

Donald E. Jackson, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

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T. Joyce

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