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AUG 03 2012

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Mail Stop O-P1-17
Washington, DC 20555

**SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION
WITHDRAWAL OF PROPOSED RELIEF REQUEST
NO. 3RR-19 TO THE THIRD 10-YEAR INSERVICE
INSPECTION PROGRAM FOR SUSQUEHANNA
UNITS 1 AND 2
PLA-6884**

**Docket Nos. 50-387
and 50-388**

*Reference: Letter (PLA-6847) from J. M. Helsel (PPL) to USNRC (Document Control Desk)
Titled "Proposed Relief Request No. 3RR-19 to the Third 10-Year Inservice Inspection
Program for Susquehanna SES Units 1 and 2," dated April 24, 2012.*

In the above referenced letter, PPL Susquehanna, LLC (PPL) requested the approval of Relief Request No. 3RR-19 to the Third 10-Year Inservice Inspection Program for Susquehanna SES Units 1 and 2. This Relief Request proposed the approval of ASME Code Case N-702 for use at Susquehanna SES. BWRVIP-108 is the technical basis used to implement the Code Case. Recent operating experience pointed out that not all design assumptions required for the use of BWRVIP-108 have been taken into consideration by the industry. Most of these assumptions are called out under the Assumptions section of the BWRVIP document. One assumption, however, was found in a later section of the BWRVIP-108 document and was not validated prior to submittal of the Relief Request.

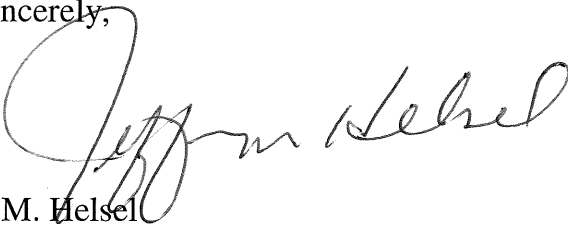
The assumption that was missed is that the number of thermal cycles (start-up and shut down) is assumed to be 40 or less over a 40-year plant life. This assumption is too conservative for most of the BWR fleet and Susquehanna exceeded this number well before its 40-year plant life.

The problem of over-conservatism regarding the number of thermal cycles has been discussed with EPRI. EPRI/BWRVIP is working to correct/revise the BWRVIP-108 document so that it reflects a more realistic plant thermal cycle. At this time, there is no timeframe established for revision and publication of a revised BWRVIP-108 document.

Since design assumption on the number of thermal cycles has been exceeded, PPL requests that proposed Relief Request No. 3RR-19 be withdrawn.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact
Mr. John L. Tripoli, Nuclear Regulatory Affairs Manager, at (570) 542-3100.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. M. Helsel". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name "J. M. Helsel".

J. M. Helsel

Copy: NRC Region I

Mr. P. W. Finney, NRC Sr. Resident Inspector

Ms. C. J. Sanders, RC Project Manager

Mr. L. J. Winker, DEP/BRP