



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
REGION I
2100 RENAISSANCE BLVD., SUITE 100
KING OF PRUSSIA, PA 19406-2713

September 1, 2015

Mr. Robert Braun
President and Chief Nuclear Officer
PSEG Nuclear LLC – N09
P.O. Box 236
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

**SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR HOPE CREEK GENERATING
STATION (REPORT 05000354/2015005)**

Dear Mr. Braun:

On August 12, 2015, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed its mid-cycle performance review of Hope Creek Generating Station (Hope Creek). The NRC reviewed the most recent quarterly performance indicators (PIs) in addition to inspection results and enforcement actions from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of your facility during this period and its plans for future inspections at your facility.

The NRC determined that overall, Hope Creek operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and met all cornerstone objectives. The NRC determined the performance at Hope Creek during the most recent quarter was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Action Matrix because all inspection findings had very low (i.e., green) safety significance, and all PIs indicated that your performance was within the nominal, expected range (i.e., green). Therefore, the NRC plans to conduct ROP baseline inspections at your facility.

The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through June 30, 2017. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. The inspections listed during the second half of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the end-of-cycle performance review. In addition to baseline inspections, the NRC will perform Inspection Procedure 60855.1, "Operation of an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation at Operating Plants" and Temporary Instruction (TI) 2515-191, "Inspection of the Implementation of Mitigation Strategies and Spent Fuel Pool Instrumentation Orders and Emergency Preparedness Communication/Staffing/Multi-Unit Dose Assessment Plans." The NRC provides the inspection plan to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues. The NRC will contact you as soon as possible to discuss changes to the inspection plan should circumstances warrant any changes. This inspection plan does not include security related inspections, which will be sent via separate, non-publicly available correspondence.

In response to the accident at Fukushima, the Commission issued Order EA-12-049, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Requirements for Mitigation Strategies for Beyond-Design-Basis External Events," which requires licensees to develop, implement, and maintain guidance and strategies to maintain or restore core cooling, containment, and spent fuel pool cooling

capabilities following a beyond-design-basis external event. Additionally, the Commission issued Order EA-12-051, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Reliable Spent Fuel Pool Instrumentation," which requires licensees to have a reliable means of remotely monitoring wide-range Spent Fuel Pool levels to support effective prioritization of event mitigation and recovery actions in the event of a beyond-design-basis external event. The NRC is conducting audits of licensee efforts towards compliance with these Orders. This audit includes an onsite component in order for the NRC to evaluate licensee plans for complying with the Orders, as described in site-specific submittals, and to receive and review information relative to associated open items. This onsite activity will occur in the months prior to a declaration of compliance for the first unit at each site, and will aid staff in development of a Final Safety Evaluation for the site. The date for the onsite component at your site is being coordinated with your staff for a week in February 2016. A site-specific audit plan for the visit will be provided in advance to allow sufficient time for preparations.

The NRC issued two SL-IV traditional enforcement violations associated with impeding the regulatory process (one) and deliberate misconduct (one). Therefore, the NRC plans to conduct Inspection Procedure 92702, "Follow-up on Corrective Actions for Violations and Deviations," to follow-up on these violations.

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Please contact me at (610) 337-5233 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Glenn T. Dentel, Chief
Projects Branch 3
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos. 50-354
License Nos. NPF-57

Enclosure: Hope Creek Inspection/Activity Plan

cc w/encl: Distribution via ListServ

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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SUNSI Review		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Sensitive <input type="checkbox"/> Sensitive		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Publicly Available <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Publicly Available	
OFFICE	RI/DRP	RI/DRP	RI/DRP		
NAME	JHawkins/MSD for per telecom	MDraxton/ MDS	GDentel / GTD		
DATE	08/25 /15	08/25 /15	08/25 /15		

Hope Creek
Inspection / Activity Plan
07/01/2015 - 06/30/2017

Unit Number	Planned Dates		Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
Start	End				
EP - EP PROGRAM INSPECTION					
					1
1	07/13/2015	07/17/2015	IP 7111402	Alert and Notification System Testing	
1	07/13/2015	07/17/2015	IP 7111403	Emergency Preparedness Organization Staffing and Augmentation System	
1	07/13/2015	07/17/2015	IP 7111405	Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies	
71124 - RAD CONTROLS					
					1
1	08/10/2015	08/14/2015	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1	08/10/2015	08/14/2015	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	08/10/2015	08/14/2015	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1	08/10/2015	08/14/2015	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
1	08/10/2015	08/14/2015	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
CDBI - COMPONENT DESIGN BASIS INSPECTION					
					7
1	09/21/2015	09/25/2015	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
1	10/05/2015	10/09/2015	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
1	10/19/2015	10/23/2015	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
71124 - RAD CONTROLS					
					1
1	11/16/2015	11/20/2015	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1	11/16/2015	11/20/2015	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	11/16/2015	11/20/2015	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
1	11/16/2015	11/20/2015	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	
71124.08 - RADWASTE					
					1
1	12/14/2015	12/18/2015	IP 71124.08	Radioactive Solid Waste Processing and Radioactive Material Handling, Storage, and Transportation	
TRI FI - TRIENNIAL FIRE PROTECTION					
					4
1	03/14/2016	03/18/2016	IP 7111105T	Fire Protection [Triennial]	
1	03/28/2016	04/01/2016	IP 7111105T	Fire Protection [Triennial]	
EP - EP EXERCISE EVALUATION					
					1
1	05/16/2016	05/20/2016	IP 7111401	Exercise Evaluation	
EXM8/15 - HOPE CREEK INITIAL EXAMINATION					
					4
1	07/25/2016	07/29/2016	U01925	FY16-HOPE CREEK INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSING EXAM	
1	08/22/2016	09/02/2016	U01925	FY16-HOPE CREEK INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSING EXAM	
71124 - RADIATION PROTECTION					
					1
1	05/02/2016	05/06/2016	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1	05/02/2016	05/06/2016	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	05/02/2016	05/06/2016	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	

This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.
This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.

Hope Creek
Inspection / Activity Plan
07/01/2015 - 06/30/2017

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	Start	End			
			71124 - RADIATION PROTECTION		1
1	05/02/2016	05/06/2016	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
1	05/02/2016	05/06/2016	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
			71124 - ENVIRONMENTAL		1
1	06/06/2016	06/10/2016	IP 71124.07	Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program	
			711111B - HOPE CREEK REQUAL INSP W/ P/F RESULTS		2
1	09/12/2016	09/16/2016	IP 711111B	Licensed Operator Requalification Program	
			71124 - RADIATION PROTECTION		1
1	09/12/2016	09/16/2016	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1	09/12/2016	09/16/2016	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	09/12/2016	09/16/2016	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1	09/12/2016	09/16/2016	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
1	09/12/2016	09/16/2016	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
			7111108G - INSERVICE INSPECTION		1
1	10/17/2016	10/21/2016	IP 7111108G	Inservice Inspection Activities - BWR	
			71124 - RADIATION PROTECTION		1
1	10/17/2016	10/21/2016	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1	10/17/2016	10/21/2016	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	10/17/2016	10/21/2016	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1	10/17/2016	10/21/2016	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
1	10/17/2016	10/21/2016	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
			71124 - RADIATION PROTECTION		1
1	11/07/2016	11/11/2016	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1	11/07/2016	11/11/2016	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	11/07/2016	11/11/2016	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1	11/07/2016	11/11/2016	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
1	11/07/2016	11/11/2016	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
1	11/07/2016	11/11/2016	IP 71151-OR01	Occupational Exposure Control Effectiveness	
1	11/07/2016	11/11/2016	IP 71151-PR01	RETS/ODCM Radiological Effluent Occurrences	
			71152B - PI&R BIENNIAL		1
1	01/30/2017	02/03/2017	IP 71152B	Problem Identification and Resolution	
1	02/13/2017	02/17/2017	IP 71152B	Problem Identification and Resolution	

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07/01/2015 - 06/30/2017

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Start	End				
			MODS - PERMANENT PLANT MODIFICATIONS		3
1	03/13/2017	03/17/2017	IP 7111117T	Evaluations of Changes, Tests, and Experiments and Permanent Plant Modifications	
1	03/27/2017	03/31/2017	IP 7111117T	Evaluations of Changes, Tests, and Experiments and Permanent Plant Modifications	
			T1-191 - FUKUSHIMA LESSONS-LEARNED		1
1	05/15/2017	05/19/2017	IP 2515/191	Inspection of Licensee's Responses to Order EA-12-049, EA-12-051 & EP Info Request March 12, 2012	
			TI-191 - FUKUSHIMA LESSONS-LEARNED		1
1	05/15/2017	05/19/2017	IP 2515/191	Inspection of Licensee's Responses to Order EA-12-049, EA-12-051 & EP Info Request March 12, 2012	
			ISFSI - ISFSI LOADING CAMPAIGN INSPECTION		1
1	05/29/2017	06/02/2017	IP 60855	Operation Of An ISFSI	
1	05/29/2017	06/02/2017	IP 60855.1	Operation of an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation at Operating Plants	
			7111107T - TRIENNIAL HEAT SINK		1
1	06/19/2017	06/23/2017	IP 7111107T	Heat Sink Performance	