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Thomas J. Martin
Vice President
Engineering and Construction

Public Service Electric and Gas Company 80 Park Plaza Newark, N.J. 07101 201/430-8316

November 23, 1983

Dr. Thomas E. Murley, Administrator
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Region I
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

Dear Dr. Murley:

SIGNIFICANT CONSTRUCTION DEFICIENCY
DEFECTIVE CAPSTAN SPRINGS IN SHOCK ARRESTORS
HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION

On October 24, 1983, a verbal report was made to Region I, Office of Inspection and Enforcement representative, Mr. E. M. Kelly, advising of a potentially significant construction deficiency concerning defective capstan springs in mechanical shock arrestors supplied by ITT Grinnell. The following information is provided in accordance with the requirements of 10CFR50.55(e).

ITT Grinnell has advised Bechtel Power Corporation, our Architect/Engineer and Constructor, of a potential problem with defective capstan springs in sizes 1 and 3 mechanical shock arrestors supplied by Pacific Scientific, a sub-supplier of ITT Grinnell. Several PSA-1 mechanical shock arrestors under test at Union Electric Callaway Station revealed broken capstan spring tangs. Based on information supplied by ITT Grinnell, Bechtel has identified 101 suspect arrestors supplied to Hope Creek. To date, only three of these arrestors have been installed. Bechtel has issued Nonconformance Report No.2701 to control the hardware and to document the corrective actions taken in response to the problem.

Our present plans call for the removal and replacement of the

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suspect capstan springs on the affected shock arrestors. This will be done either at Pacific Scientific's facility or at the jobsite under the direction of ITT Grinnell.

ITT Grinnell will perform nondestructive examinations of the removed capstan springs to determine if any exhibit the defective condition. Our safety analysis will be based on these test results.

We anticipate completion of the above corrective actions by December 31, 1983. Giving adequate time for NDE and analysis of results, we expect to provide you with a final report by February 29, 1984.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. J. Martin".

cc: Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Division of Reactor Construction Inspection
Washington, D. C.

NRC Resident Inspector - Hope Creek
P. O. Box 241
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