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May 8, 1985 MAY -9 A11:45

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In the Matter of
Philadelphia Electric Company
(Limerick Generating Station, Units 1 and 2)
Docket Nos. 50-352 and 50-353

Dear Board Members:

On May 7, 1985, the Delaware River Basin Commission ("DRBC") conducted its legislative hearing on Philadelphia Electric Company's application for certain changes in its authority from that Commission to obtain temporary supplies of additional water. The Application, dated March 15, 1985, and the amendment dated April 23, 1985, have already been transmitted for your information.

Enclosed for the further information of the Board are the following items relating to our DRBC application and hearing:

1. DRBC "PUBLIC NOTICE -- Project Review Applications Received" dated April 3, 1985.
2. DRBC "NOTICE OF COMMISSION MEETINGS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS," dated April 16, 1985, pages 1 and 3.

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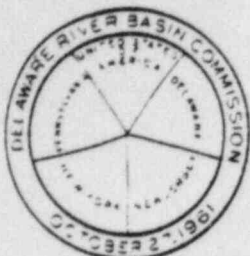
3. DRBC draft partial preliminary "docket."
4. "Applicant's Testimony" by Vincent S. Boyer dated May 7, 1985.

Sincerely,

Troy B. Conner, Jr.

Troy B. Conner, Jr.

TBC/ac
Enclosures
cc: Service List



GERALD M. HANSLER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DELAWARE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION
P.O. BOX 7360
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PUBLIC NOTICE

Project Review Applications Received
OFFICE OF SECRETARY
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The Commission has recently received applications from the sponsors of the following projects for approval pursuant to Section 3.8, Article 11, and/or Article 10.3 of the Delaware River Basin Compact. These projects are presently under review by the Commission staff in collaboration with other public agencies. Individuals or organizations having a special interest in these projects, or information relating to their impact on water and related land resources of the Delaware River Basin, are invited to comment in writing to the Commission's Executive Director, Gerald M. Hansler. When writing about a project, please refer to its docket number as listed below. Such public hearings as may be required for these projects will be announced at a later date in accordance with the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure.

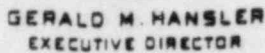
1. Philadelphia Electric Company D-69-210 CP (Final) Revised. An application by the Philadelphia Electric Company (PECO) to temporarily, during 1985, revise portions of the Limerick Electric Generating Project as included in the Comprehensive Plan and to approve the temporary changes under Section 3.8 of the Compact. The proposed revisions consist of (1) a substitution of dissolved oxygen controls (average 5.0 mg/l and instantaneous of 4.0 mg/l) in lieu of the existing 59°F temperature limitation to determine the availability of Schuylkill River water and (2) the release of varying amounts of water from Blue Marsh Reservoir and/or other water supply storage whenever the proposed dissolved oxygen limits or the existing flow limitation of 530 cubic feet per second (cfs) in the Schuylkill River at Pottstown would otherwise prohibit the consumptive use of water from the Schuylkill River. The quantity of water withdrawn will vary during the power ascension testing and start-up period. PECO estimates that Unit No. 1 will not operate at full power before September 1985. At full power water consumption will average 27 cfs (17.3 million gallons per day (mgd)) with a peak demand of 32.5 cfs (21 mgd). The Limerick Electric Generating Project is located in Limerick Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.

2. Mount Laurel Municipal Utilities Authority D-84-36 CP. A revised application for a sewage treatment project to serve Mount Laurel Township in Burlington County, New Jersey. The existing Hartford Road STP will be modified to eliminate odor problems and to remove 90 percent BOD₅ and TSS from an average waste flow of 2.4 mgd. Treated effluent will discharge to the Rancocas Creek in Mount Laurel Township, Burlington County.

(over)

3. Borough of Elmer D-85-24 CP. An application for approval of two existing wells (Nos. 6 and 8) supplying the Borough of Elmer, Salem County, New Jersey with a total of 4.8 mg/30 days for domestic use. This is the sole water supply for Elmer. The wells, which draw from the Wenoh-Mount Laurel geologic formation, are located off Broad Street in the Borough of Elmer.
4. Blue Ridge Real Estate/Big Boulder Corporation D-85-25. A sewage treatment project to serve the "Big Boulder Lake" resort area in Kidder Township, Carbon County, Pennsylvania. The treatment plant will be designed to remove 93 percent BOD₅, 88 percent TSS and nutrients from an average waste flow of 0.225 mgd. Treated effluent will discharge to an unnamed tributary of Tunkhannock Creek in Kidder Township.
5. Borough of Ambler D-85-26 CP. A ground water withdrawal application to continue approvals for the applicant's Well Nos. 12 and 14. Dockets D-77-92 CP and D-77-16 CP granted interim approvals in 1978 and 1977 for Well Nos. 12 and 14, respectively, subject to review when the applicant submitted an acceptable ground water monitoring program and a report on the findings and analysis of the effects of Ambler withdrawals on the water resources of the area. In 1984 the applicant supplied an average of 1.89 mgd from nine wells to meet system demands. Well No. 12 is located 800 feet east of Houston Road in Lower Gwynedd Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania and is expected to yield up to 0.22 mgd. Well No. 14 is located adjacent to Butler Pike in Upper Dublin Township, Montgomery County and is expected to yield up to 0.547 mgd.

Susan M. Weisman, Secretary
April 3, 1985



RELATED CORRESPONDENCE
DELAWARE

DELAWARE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

P.O. BOX 7360

WEST TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08628

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E. J. BRADLEY

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WEST TRENTON, N. J.

NOTICE OF COMMISSION MEETING

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AND PUBLIC HEARINGS

Notice is hereby given that the Delaware River Basin Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, May 1, 1985, beginning at 1:30 p.m. in the Newcastle Room of the Radisson Wilmington Hotel, Wilmington, Delaware. The hearing will be a part of the Commission's regular business meeting which is open to the public.

An informal pre-meeting conference among the Commissioners and staff will be open for public observation at about 11:00 a.m. at the same location.

Applications for Approval of the Following Projects Pursuant to Article 10.3,
Article 11 and/or Section 3.8 of the Compact:

1. Kudra, Kudra and Frawley D-84-40. A sewage treatment project to serve the Heritage Hills residential development in Upper Makefield Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania. The treatment plant will be designed to remove 92 percent (summer) BOD₅ and TSS from an average waste flow of 0.10 million gallons per day (mgd). Treated effluent will discharge to the Delaware River in Upper Makefield Township.
2. Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of General Services D-84-41 CP. A sewage treatment project to serve Graterford Correctional Institution in Shippack Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. The project will be designed for storage and subsequent spray irrigation of an annual average of 1.0 mgd of secondary treated effluent. Spray volume will vary from 0.76 mgd during winter months to 1.3 mgd during the summer. The spray area will consist of 25 acres of woodland and 369 acres of pasture and crop land. Feed crops will be harvested and used for the prison's farm operation.
3. Scott Paper Company D-84-53. Discharge of industrial waste waters from the applicant's new cogeneration process at its paper manufacturing facility in the City of Chester, Delaware County, Pennsylvania. Up to 0.725 mgd of treated coal pile runoff and 0.461 mgd of cooling tower blowdown will be discharged through separate outfalls to Zone 4 of the Delaware River. Coal pile runoff will be treated for oil, sediment removal and pH control prior to discharge.
4. H. Hassan D-84-54. A sewage treatment project to serve the applicant's "Orchard" subdivision in Montgomery Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. The plant is designed to remove 96 percent BOD₅ (summer) and 90 percent TSS from an average waste flow of 0.15 mgd. Treated effluent will discharge to the Little Neshaminy Creek in Montgomery Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.
5. Texaco USA D-85-1. An application for ground water withdrawal to supply the applicant's oil refining facility in West Deptford Township, Gloucester County, New Jersey. Replacement Well Nos. 4A and 6A, both located in West Deptford Township, were previously placed in service and replace Well Nos. 4 and 6, which have been sealed. Each well supplies up to 40.176 million gallons (mg)/30 days for cooling and process use. Total withdrawals from all system wells average 118.7 mg/30 days.

Documents relating to these items may be examined at the Commission's offices. Preliminary dockets are available in single copies upon request. Please contact David B. Everett. Persons wishing to testify at this hearing are requested to register with the Secretary prior to the hearings.

* * * * *

The Commission will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, May 7, 1985, at 10:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. in the Goddard Conference Room of the Commission's offices at 25 State Police Drive, West Trenton, New Jersey to consider the following application:

Philadelphia Electric Company D-69-210 CP (Final) Revised. An application by the Philadelphia Electric Company (PECO) to temporarily, during 1985, revise portions of the Limerick Electric Generating Project as included in the Comprehensive Plan and to approve the temporary changes under Section 3.8 of the Compact. The proposed revisions consist of (1) a substitution of dissolved oxygen controls (average 5.0 mg/l and instantaneous of 4.0 mg/l) in lieu of the existing 59° F temperature limitation to determine the availability of Schuylkill River water and (2) the release of varying amounts of water from Blue Marsh Reservoir and/or other water supply storage whenever the proposed dissolved oxygen limits or the existing flow limitation of 530 cubic feet per second (cfs) in the Schuylkill River at Pottstown would otherwise prohibit the consumptive use of water from the Schuylkill River. The quantity of water withdrawn will vary during the power ascension testing and start-up period. PECO estimates that Unit No. 1 will not operate at full power before September 1985. At full power water consumption will average 27 cfs (17.3 mgd with a peak demand of 32.5 cfs (21 mgd). The Limerick Electric Generating Project is located in Limerick Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.

Documents relating to this item may be examined at the Commission's offices. Persons wishing to testify at this hearing are requested to register with the Secretary prior to the hearing.

* * * * *

PUBLIC INFORMATION BRIEFINGS ON WATER SUPPLY CHARGES

The Commission is currently considering new revenue arrangements to meet its prospective obligations for financing the proposed enlargement of two existing reservoirs in the Basin. Under its current program, anticipated revenues from water charges will fall far short of meeting future contract or bond repayment requirements if revenues are not increased by greatly raising present rates or by expanding the number of paying users. Based upon Delaware River Basin Compact Section 15.1(b), only surface water users who commenced or increased their water use after Compact enactment in 1961 are presently subject to user fees. As of 1984, those surface water users subject to DRBC charges included ten public water supply systems, seven electric power plants, and 11 industrial facilities. Presently, the vast majority of Basin water users are grandfathered and exempt from such charges.

In assessing potential arrangements for financing future water projects, the Commission believes that consideration must be given to possible modification of Federal Reservation Section 15.1(b) and potential extension of water charges, in some form, to pre-Compact water users.

Before the
Delaware River Basin Commission

RELATED CORRESPONDENCE

In the Matter of)
Philadelphia Electric Company) Application for Temporary
) Modification of Limitations
) on Use of Schuylkill River
) Water D-69-210 CP (Final)
) Revised

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APPLICANT'S TESTIMONY

Introduction

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1. My name is Vincent S. Boyer. I am Senior Vice President, Nuclear Power, Philadelphia Electric Company ("PECO"), which is owner and operator of the Limerick Generating Station ("LGS").

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2. PECO is seeking a temporary supply of water for 1985 in order to implement the ascent to power program of LGS leading to commercial operation.

3. PECO recognizes that the water it is seeking from sources of water supply storage, such as the Blue Marsh Reservoir, must serve the needs of all basin users. Assuming Blue Marsh as the probable source of a temporary water supply, PECO is seeking to use only a portion of that water now earmarked for future use by Western Berks Township, or water from other storage as determined by DRBC under the pooled water concept, for the remainder of 1985.

4. Under DRBC docket limitations, in an average year, LGS can be operated on withdrawals from the Schuylkill River and Perkiomen Creek for approximately 200 days per year. Accordingly, to permit operation for a full year, particularly for the drought of 1985, water from supply storage such as Blue Marsh is essential.

5. At the present time, Blue Marsh has 8,000 acre-feet of water designated for downstream water supply needs which is equivalent to a firm yield of 55 cfs. At present, Western Berks Water Authority has an allocation for only 9 cfs. Accordingly, the remaining 46 cfs is more

than enough to provide the 22 cfs needed on the average for LGS during late 1985.

6. Additionally, PECO proposes a temporary substitution of dissolved oxygen monitoring for the 59°F temperature limitation for withdrawals under the present docket conditions. It is uncertain, particularly in a drought year, how many additional days of water withdrawal from the Schuylkill would be made available by a temporary elimination of this restriction in 1985. Nevertheless, lifting the temperature limitation for 1985 and substituting a dissolved oxygen monitoring program should be approved because it appears likely that at least a few days of additional withdrawals would be gained in 1985 with the corresponding reduction in the need for water from water supply storage.

7. Examination of the environmental impact of temporarily lifting the temperature limitation for withdrawals demonstrates that this will not have any adverse impact. The temperature limits were established primarily to maintain State water quality standards for dissolved oxygen in order to ensure dissolved oxygen to meet the biological oxygen demands of wasteload discharges and to provide a minimum dissolved oxygen level normally associated with a cold water fishery. The dissolved oxygen monitoring program proposed by PECO for 1985 will assure protection of water quality by the maintenance of adequate dissolved oxygen levels.

8. PECO's request is made solely because Point Pleasant, for reasons beyond PECO's control, will not be available in 1985 for the provision of supplemental cooling water. This testimony summarizes the material contained in PECO's applications and supporting documentation.

I. Background

A. Project Description

9. Cooling water for LGS will be withdrawn primarily from the Schuylkill River and/or the Perkiomen Creek. When withdrawal of water from these sources is precluded by temperature or flow constraints in DRBC Docket D-69-219 CP (Final) (November 5, 1975), principally May through October, PECO will withdraw supplemental cooling water from the Delaware River and will transport it to LGS via the Point Pleasant diversion project.

10. The Point Pleasant Pumping Station will draw water from the Delaware River and pump it through a transmission main to the Bradshaw Reservoir. From the Bradshaw Reservoir, the water will be transported via pipeline to the East Branch of the Perkiomen Creek. Open channel flow will transport the water into the main stem of the Perkiomen Creek. A pumping station will transport the water by way of an intake on the Perkiomen Creek via pipeline to LGS.

11. In order to permit the completion of testing and ascension to full power operation for Unit 1 of LGS, PECO has requested that, in 1985, DRBC authorize the substitution of instream monitoring of dissolved oxygen levels for the 59°F temperature constraint on withdrawals from the Schuylkill River for LGS Unit 1 and, as necessary, the release of varying amounts of water, not exceeding 32.5 cfs, from water supply storage.

B. Initial DRBC Approval

12. The Point Pleasant Pumping Station was added to the Comprehensive Plan by DRBC in Docket No. D-65-76 CP(2) (January 25, 1967). Docket No. D-65-76 CP(3) (March 17, 1971) added cooling water needs for Limerick to the project. At that time, DRBC decided to defer

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Section 3.8 approval until consideration had been given to the final plans for construction and operation of the system.

13. PECO filed an application for water withdrawals for Limerick on March 5, 1970. DRBC's subsequent reviews, which analyzed environmental impacts of the proposed and alternative systems, resulted in the publication of a final environmental impact statement on the project in December 1971, and an expanded final environmental impact statement in February 1973.

14. Based on these reviews, DRBC gave conditional Section 3.8 approval for PECO to withdraw water from the Schuylkill River and/or the Perkiomen Creek, augmented as necessary from the Delaware River, in Docket No. D-69-210 (March 29, 1973).

15. In that decision, DRBC determined that PECO may withdraw Schuylkill River water for consumptive use at LGS, when flow, as measured at the Pottstown gage, exceeds 530 cfs with one unit in operation and 560 cfs for two units, with two exceptions. The first exception is that no withdrawals may be made when river water temperatures below LGS are above 15°C (59°F) except during April, May and June when the flow, as measured at the Pottstown gage, exceeds 1,791 cfs. The second exception is that use of Schuylkill River water is limited to withdrawals that will result in an effluent that meets all applicable water quality standards. DRBC stated that those docket constraints on consumptive use of Schuylkill River water are to protect water quantity and water quality below LGS.

16. In Docket No. D-69-210 CP (March 29, 1973), DRBC also determined that Perkiomen Creek water may be used when flows, as measured at the Graterford gage, exceed 180 cfs with one unit in

operation and 210 cfs with two units, exclusive of any water pumped from the Delaware River.

17. Finally, the DRBC determined that PECO may withdraw water from the Delaware River, as augmented for the purpose of water supply by upstream reservoirs, via the Point Pleasant diversion project with the limitation that such withdrawals will not reduce the flow as measured at the Trenton gage below 3,000 cfs and that withdrawals will not be permitted when the flow as measured at the Trenton gage is less than 3,000 cfs. The docket decision further provides that after pumping from the Delaware River has commenced annually, the rate of pumping will be maintained at not less than 27 cfs throughout the normal low flow season for the protection of aquatic life in Perkiomen Creek and its East Branch.

18. After a hearing on objections to the Point Pleasant diversion project, DRBC granted final Section 3.8 approval to the project's water allocations in Docket D-69-210 (Final) (November 5, 1975). That decision incorporates the express conditions and limitations stated above.

C. Subsequent DRBC Approval

19. On August 2, 1979, PECO filed with DRBC an application pursuant to Section 3.8 of the Delaware River Basin Compact for approval of the construction of its portions of the Point Pleasant diversion project, i.e., the Bradshaw Reservoir, Bradshaw Pumping Station, and the Perkiomen Transmission Main.

20. On February 18, 1981, DRBC granted Section 3.8 approval for the various components of the project, including the Bradshaw Reservoir, to be used for LGS, subject to the express conditions and limitations stated above. On the same day, in a separate docket

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decision, DRBC also granted Section 3.8 approval for the public water supply components of the project, including components to be used jointly.

21. DRBC's decision approving construction and operation of the Point Pleasant diversion project was challenged in the Federal courts and upheld in Delaware Water Emergency Group v. Hansler, 536 F. Supp. 26 (E.D. Pa. 1981), aff'd, 681 F.2d 805 (3d Cir. 1982).

D. Other Agency Approvals

22. On July 18, 1980, Neshaminy Water Resources Authority ("NWRA"), as constructor and operator of the Point Pleasant Pumping Station, applied to the United States Army Corps of Engineers for a permit to construct a water intake structure in the Delaware River and a conduit under the Pennsylvania Canal at Point Pleasant (Application No. NAPOP-R-80-0534-3). The Corps issued this permit on October 25, 1982.

23. The Corps' decision to issue the permit was appealed to the Federal courts and upheld in Del-Aware Unlimited, Inc. v. Baldwin, No. 82-5115, Tr. 1445-46 (E.D. Pa. Dec. 15, 1982), aff'd, 720 F.2d 661 (3d Cir. 1983), cert. denied, 104 S. Ct. 1274 (1984).

24. On March 8, 1982, PECO filed an application with the Pennsylvania PUC pursuant to Section 619 of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, 53 Pa. C.S.A. §10619, seeking a finding of necessity for the Bradshaw Reservoir Pumphouse. On December 12, 1983, the PUC Administrative Law Judge issued an Initial Decision approving the application, but restricting pumphouse operations for the first year to one 8,000 gallons per minute pump and, if no significant adverse environmental effects are present, approving a second pump thereafter.

25. PECO has appealed the decision of the PUC Administrative Law Judge to the full Commission. On February 1, 1984, DRBC, pursuant to Resolution No. 84-1, filed an amicus curiae brief with the PUC to state the jurisdiction, position and current status of actions of DRBC regarding water management in the Basin and related matters raised by the Initial Decision. Almost one year ago, on June 26, 1984, the Secretary of the PUC advised that the PUC has postponed a ruling on the appeals from the Initial Decision for an unspecified period.

26. On April 7 and December 18, 1981 and January 7, 1982, respectively, PECO filed applications with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources ("DER") pursuant to the Dam Safety and Encroachments Act, 32 P.S. §693.1 et seq., the Flood Plain Management Act, 32 P.S. §679.101 et seq. and the Clean Streams Law, 35 P.S. §691.1 et seq. for various permits facilitating the diversion of water from Point Pleasant to the LGS. DER issued PECO the requested permits on September 2, 1982. On the same date, DER also issued a permit to NWRA, inter alia, for construction of the Point Pleasant Pumping Station intake and related conduit crossing the Pennsylvania Canal.

27. In an Adjudication issued June 18, 1984, the Pennsylvania Environmental Hearing Board affirmed the issuance of these permits, subject to a condition limiting flows of diverted water in the East Branch of the Perkiomen Creek to 2.0 fps. PECO subsequently determined that flows sufficient to supply supplemental cooling water for LGS Unit 1 could be transported via the East Branch within the 2.0 fps flow restriction.

28. Contrary to the interpretation of federal law by DER, the Environmental Hearing Board also ruled that the discharge of Delaware River water into the East Branch requires an NPDES permit under Section

402 of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. §1342. On August 3, 1984, PECO applied to DER for the issuance of such an NPDES permit. At this time, the application is under review.

29. PECO has appealed the Environmental Hearing Board's finding as to the necessity of an NPDES permit for releases into the East Branch. The Board's findings as to environmental impacts of releases below 2.0 fps, Inter alia, have also been appealed by Intervenor Del-Aware Unlimited, Inc. Those appeals are currently pending disposition before the Commonwealth Court.

30. Although unrelated to the Point Pleasant diversion project or any aspect of the instant application for an interim supplemental cooling water supply in 1985, it is noted that Del-Aware Unlimited, Inc. has also appealed the issuance by DER of an NPDES permit, authorizing LGS discharges into the Schuylkill River and Possum Hollow Run. That appeal is pending before the Environmental Hearing Board.

E. Recent Developments Concerning Point Pleasant

31. On January 10, 1983, NWRA began construction at Point Pleasant. On May 18, 1983, the Board of County Commissioners of Bucks County sent a letter to NWRA demanding that NWRA immediately terminate construction. A 30-day moratorium on construction was imposed but construction recommenced thereafter.

32. On November 18, 1983, the Bucks County Commissioners passed Ordinance No. 59, which directed NWRA to convey the Point Pleasant project to Bucks County. On February 9, 1984, NWRA again halted construction. Since that date, no construction on the pumping station has occurred except for certain river and canal work performed to protect the site.

33. The pumping station and intake are approximately 50 percent complete, but cannot be finished in time to permit withdrawals of supplemental cooling water via Point Pleasant from the Delaware River in 1985.

34. Following the referendum in May 1983 a majority of the Bucks County Commissioners notified PECO of the County's purported "termination" of the contract between PECO and NWRA for the construction and operation of the Point Pleasant Pumping Station. PECO and others brought suit in the Bucks County Court of Common Pleas to enjoin Bucks County from terminating its participation in the Point Pleasant project.

35. On January 3, 1985, the Court of Common Pleas of Bucks County rules against Bucks County and NWRA. The Court ordered, among other things, that NWRA immediately recommence and complete construction of the Point Pleasant Pumping Station. Bucks County and NWRA were both ordered to do all things necessary to assure that the Point Pleasant Pumping Station is completed. On February 27, 1985, the Court entered its final order denying all exceptions to its earlier decision. An appeal by NWRA and Bucks County is now pending before the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania.

F. Recent Developments Concerning LGS

36. On October 26, 1984, the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission issued a license authorizing PECO to load fuel and conduct low power testing for LGS Unit 1. Fuel loading was completed in November 1984 and the low-power testing program was completed in March 1985. LGS Unit 1 has been ready to proceed to power levels greater than allowed under the NRC license since the end of March 1985. In view of the current status of the NRC licensing proceedings, a decision

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on the issuance of a full power license could be reached in late May 1985.

37. In order to proceed with the power ascension program for Unit 1 after the NRC's issuance of a full power operating license, it is necessary to have available a supplemental cooling water supply. The partially constructed Point Pleasant Pumping Station cannot be completed in time to supply the supplemental cooling water needs of Unit 1 in the second quarter of 1985 when the NRC could authorize PECO to proceed to full power operation. Consequently, an interim supply of supplemental cooling water will be required to permit operation of Unit 1 at sustained high power levels until the Point Pleasant diversion project is completed.

II. Application

38. On March 15, 1985, following the denial of exceptions to the Decision of the Court of Common Pleas of Bucks County, PECO submitted an application to DRBC pursuant to Section 3.8 of the Delaware River Basin Compact for approval for release, as necessary, of varying amounts of water, not exceeding 32.5 cfs, from water supply storage during 1985, and the temporary substitution, during 1985, of instream monitoring of dissolved oxygen levels in place of the 59°F temperature constraint on withdrawals for LGS Unit 1 incorporated in Docket 69-210 CP (Final) (November 5, 1975).

39. On April 23, 1985, the application was amended to request a change in the Comprehensive Plan corresponding to the terms of the proposal in the application and to include an analysis of increased water withdrawals from natural river flow which would result from substituting the proposed dissolved oxygen monitoring in lieu of the existing temperature limitation.

III. Description of Request

A. Purpose

40. PECO's request for temporary modification of the 59°F temperature constraint on the withdrawal of Schuylkill River water for consumptive use during 1985 is intended solely as an interim measure to enable LGS to complete the power ascension phase of operation without delay and to operate at full capacity in order to provide reliable and economic electric power for southeastern Pennsylvania.

41. Release of varying amounts of water, not exceeding 32.5 cfs, from water supply storage during 1985 is also intended solely as an interim measure that will be requested only when instream monitoring reveals low dissolved oxygen levels or when river flows fall below 530 cfs in the Schuylkill or 180 cfs in the Perkiomen, which would otherwise preclude further withdrawals from the Schuylkill River and from Perkiomen Creek.

B. Proposed Plan of Operation

42. The continuation of the start-up program and approach to full power for LGS Unit 1 will begin following NRC authorization. A gradual ascension to full power is planned with tests being conducted at several discrete power levels. The test program is estimated to require approximately six months, which provides time for review and approval of test results and for some adjustment and tuning of control systems.

43. Based on the availability of consumptive water, the following program is envisioned. For the first two months of the start-up program, Unit 1 will be operated at power levels up to 50% of full power and the average consumptive water requirements will be about 10 cfs. In the third month, testing will occur at power levels up to 75%

of full power with the consumptive water requirements averaging about 17 cfs. Thereafter through November, 1985, it is planned to conduct tests up to full power output with consumptive water needs averaging about 22 cfs. When operating continuously at full power, the average consumptive use will be about 27 cfs. This can increase to 32.5 cfs under adverse meteorological conditions.

44. During the test program, PECO will use withdrawals from the Schuylkill River and Perkiomen Creek as authorized by the DRBC docket decisions. When river water temperatures approach 59°, PECO will conduct instream monitoring of dissolved oxygen levels in the Schuylkill River at predesignated locations. In fact, we have already begun preliminary monitoring.

45. When further withdrawals from the Schuylkill River and Perkiomen Creek are precluded by DRBC flow constraints or by low dissolved oxygen levels, PECO will request, during 1985, release of water from existing water storage facilities. The water released will flow into the Schuylkill River to be withdrawn at the Schuylkill River intake for LGS. Under the terms of Docket No. 69-210 CP (Final) (November 5, 1975), the withdrawal constraints imposed by that docket decision would be inapplicable to any such releases.

C. Differences Between PECO's Application and Bucks County/Del-Aware's Proposal

46. The temporary, interim measures proposed by PECO are far more limited than those previously proposed by Bucks County and Del-Aware Unlimited, Inc., which DRBC rejected in Resolution No. 84-20 (August 15, 1984). The interim relief sought by PECO is requested solely in order to enable operation of Limerick during completion of the Point

Pleasant project, which will be the permanent supply of supplemental cooling water for LGS.

47. Unlike the Bucks County/Del-Aware proposal, which sought to reopen and overturn the previous docket decisions of DRBC in granting final Section 3.8 approval to the Point Pleasant diversion project, PECO's application will protect, rather than defeat, the rights and interests of the parties to the Point Pleasant project docket decisions.

48. Unlike the Bucks County/Del-Aware proposal, which sought an allocation from the water supply and water quality storage in Blue Marsh Reservoir throughout the entire operating life of LGS, PECO is requesting only an interim use during 1985 of a portion of the 8,000 acre-feet of the water supply storage in Blue Marsh. PECO is not requesting any releases from the 6,600 acre-feet of water quality storage in Blue Marsh. Accordingly, the temporary use requested by PECO so water supply storage in Blue Marsh would not interfere with either DRBC allocations and increased withdrawals from Blue Marsh by other users throughout the Schuylkill watershed, or DRBC's use of water quality storage to protect and enhance water quality in the Basin.

49. Similarly, unlike the Bucks County/Del-Aware proposal, PECO is not requesting a permanent change in the 59°F temperature constraint on Schuylkill River withdrawals. PECO is merely requesting an interim substitution of monitoring for dissolved oxygen levels to prevent stresses on stream water quality related to consumptive use of water at Limerick. The PECO application, as distinguished from the Bucks County/Del-Aware proposal, demonstrates the proposal's benefit to LGS in terms of additional days of withdrawals from the Schuylkill River

which would be gained by a temporary substitution of dissolved oxygen monitoring requirements for the 59°F temperature constraint.

50. PECO's application does not contain other features or alternatives which DRBC found unacceptable in the Bucks County/Del-Aware proposal, namely: (1) adverse impacts upon the capability to serve the public water supply needs in Bucks and Montgomery Counties; (2) impairment of DRBC's capability to respond to water quality and water supply needs in drought emergencies; (3) substitution of releases from Merrill Creek Reservoir for storage in Blue Marsh Reservoir; (4) reduction of salinity control; (5) utilization of Schuylkill River desilting basins; (6) reallocation of 2,000 acre-feet in the Green Lane Reservoir for LGS; (7) reduction of the Schuylkill River trigger flow for LGS Unit 1 from 530 cfs to 400 cfs; (8) development of Red Creek Reservoir and/or construction of other pump storage facilities in Chester and Montgomery Counties.

51. PECO's application does not contain the objectionable features which precluded DRBC's evaluation of the Bucks County/Del-Aware proposal. Because Bucks County and Del-Aware proposed to eliminate the Point Pleasant project, their proposal required evaluation of specific water supply alternatives for Bucks and Montgomery Counties, including engineering, economic and environmental impacts, which were not provided. In contrast, PECO's application does not require such evaluations inasmuch as its proposal will not, interfere with the availability of public water supplies from the Point Pleasant project as approved by DRBC.

52. Finally, in contrast to the Bucks County/Del-Aware proposal, PECO's application contains a realistic estimate of cooling water needs for LGS for the brief, interim period requested. DRBC previously found

that Bucks County and Del-Aware has substantially underestimated consumptive water makeup demands for LGS. Further, the consumptive water makeup needs for 1985 during the ascension to power program are far less than the permanent, sustained operating power needs applicable to the Bucks County/Del-Aware proposal.

IV. Consideration of Potential

Environmental Impacts

A. Need for Power

53. As to the specific need for the electrical power to be generated by LGS, DRBC has relied upon the findings of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (previously the Atomic Energy Commission) in its environmental statements for LGS. In issuing construction permits for LGS, the AEC determined that there is a need for the electrical power to be generated by LGS. At the operating license stage, the NRC similarly found a substantial benefit to the environment to be derived from the operation of LGS in the annual production of approximately 10 billion kwh of base load electric energy.

54. The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission ("PUC") stated in an order entered August 27, 1982 that the public interest requires timely completion of LGS Unit 1. The PUC encouraged PECO to complete LGS Unit 1 as rapidly as possible consistent with public safety. Pennsylvania PUC, Opinion and Order, Docket No. I-80100341 (August 27, 1982).

55. Delays in the full power operation of LGS Unit 1 may adversely affect the restart of Unit 2 construction. The Pennsylvania PUC is presently holding hearings on whether construction of Unit 2 should recommence. In compliance with a prior PUC order, construction

of Unit 2 has been suspended until Unit 1 is placed in commercial operation.

B. Alternatives

56. Inasmuch as PECO has requested interim relief for only the remainder of 1985, an alternative is not realistic and need not be considered unless capable of being promptly implemented. Thus, an alternative which would require construction or major modification of existing facilities would be too time consuming to be practicable.

57. PECO considered various alternatives for a temporary supply of supplemental cooling water for LGS for the period of 1985 when docket decision constraints preclude withdrawals from the Schuylkill River and Perkiomen Creek.

58. No Action - Due to flow and temperature constraints imposed by DRBC on withdrawals of water from the Schuylkill River for consumptive use, the Schuylkill River will be largely unavailable for such withdrawals during the period June to October 1985. Because the permanent supplemental water supply from the Point Pleasant diversion project will be unavailable for this period, LGS cannot continue with ascension to full power without an interim source.

59. Delays in proceeding to full power will result in a delay in the commercial operation of Unit 1. Such delays will increase the cost of Unit 1 by \$34 million per month. This cost figure is comprised of \$24 million per month Allowance for Funds Used During Construction ("AFUDC") and \$10 million per month operational, security, and maintenance costs. In addition, the fuel costs of PECO's customers will be increased by \$15 million a month for each month of delay. Thus, the cost of not operating LGS for lack of water during that period is estimated to be \$49 million per month.

60. Ontelaunee Reservoir - Obtaining water supplies from this reservoir was considered as an alternative to the relief requested here. The reservoir is located on Maiden Creek, a tributary to the Schuylkill River upstream of LGS, and is owned by the City of Reading for use as a water supply source. Ontelaunee Reservoir is reported to have 11,640 acre-feet of total storage, although silting may have substantially reduced this storage. The City of Reading was granted an allocation of 35 mgd by the predecessor agency to the Pennsylvania DER on May 14, 1968.

61. The water supply system served by Ontelaunee is presently reported to use an average of 20 mgd with a maximum usage of about 25 mgd. In general, this withdrawal is for nonconsumptive use.

62. PECO made a presentation to the City Council of Reading and inquired into the City's interest in providing water from its unused allocation to PECO. The city has indicated no interest.

63. Green Lane Reservoir - Obtaining water supplies from this reservoir was also considered as an alternative to the relief requested. The Green Lane Reservoir is located on the Perkiomen Creek. It is owned by the Philadelphia Suburban Water Company ("PSW") and is used in combination with other reservoirs and wells for water supply. Total storage in the reservoir is 13,340 acre-feet. PSW has advised DER by letter dated June 4, 1984 that any use of water from Green Lane Reservoir by PECO would be "impossible" without "crippling" PSW's water supply.

C. Description of Physical Impacts

64. Beneficial impacts to the environment - The availability of cooling water during 1985 for LGS will enable LGS to complete its power ascension program without delay and to operate at full capacity in

order to provide reliable and economic electric power for southeastern Pennsylvania.

65. DRBC has previously determined that the supply of cooling water for LGS provides a benefit to the environment. This conclusion can be found in both the DRBC Final Environmental Assessment for the Neshaminy Water Supply System, Part III, p. 2-53 (August 1980) and in the Section 3.8 approval to the Point Pleasant diversion project in Docket No. D-79-52 CP at p. 5 (February 18, 1981).

66. No adverse impact from temporary suspension of 59°F temperature constraint - DRBC Docket No. D-69-210 CP (March 29, 1973) precludes Schuylkill River withdrawals for consumptive use by LGS whenever river water temperatures below LGS exceed 59°F, except during April, May, and June when flows measured at the Pottstown gage exceed 1,791 cfs. DRBC's decision to limit Schuylkill River withdrawals when temperatures are above 59°F is intended to reduce stresses on stream water quality caused by consumptive losses at LGS when water quality is significantly affected by organic waste assimilation. When temperatures in the river exceed 59°F, the biological oxygen demand accelerates and the dissolved oxygen necessary for waste assimilation becomes more critical.

67. PECO proposes to monitor the river for dissolved oxygen at several predesignated locations below LGS and to substitute State standards for dissolved oxygen for the existing 59°F temperature constraint as the limit on withdrawals from the natural river flow. This substitution of dissolved oxygen monitoring for the temperature constraint is proposed only for the remainder of 1985. PECO will routinely transmit the dissolved oxygen information to DRBC.

68. The Pennsylvania water quality standard for dissolved oxygen in the Schuylkill River is 5.0 mg/l minimum daily average and 4.0 mg/l minimum instantaneous value. PECO proposes that these two values be established as the critical values which limit withdrawals from natural river flow and also trigger releases of water from water supply storage.

69. The monitoring program proposed to measure dissolved oxygen levels during 1985 will include water sampling at least six times per day at regular time intervals at six different locations between LGS (R.M. 48.0) and the Fairmount Dam (R.M. 8.5) in Philadelphia.

70. The monitoring and transmittal of data will be accomplished with automatic equipment where practical and possible. When automatic equipment is unavailable, manual means will be utilized. Regardless of the means of monitoring, data will be transmitted to DRBC at least daily and DRBC also will have ready access to all data during any intervening time interval.

71. Depressed dissolved oxygen levels usually occur in the pools behind the dams across the Schuylkill River. It is therefore proposed to establish a sampling station behind each of the following six dams: Fairmount Dam (R.M. 8.5), Flat Rock Dam (R.M. 15.6), Plymouth Dam (R.M. 20.7), Norristown Dam (R.M. 23.9), Black Rock Dam (R.M. 36.6), and Vincent Dam (R.M. 44.7). A sampling station at LGS (R.M. 48.0) was established about ten years ago and sampling will continue at this location as before.

72. At each of these stations, a single probe will be installed. The specific location will be determined based on access, availability of electricity, telephone lines and protection from vandalism. The

probe will be positioned vertically in the water column below the mid-point so that it will not be subject to surface effects.

73. This monitoring program, when substituted for a single temperature measurement, will provide satisfactory water quality protection because of the relationship between dissolved oxygen and organic waste assimilation and because the entire down river stretch will be monitored.

74. No adverse impact from releases from existing water storage in 1985 - In addition to the existing 59°F temperature constraint on Schuylkill River withdrawals for LGS, there is a minimum flow constraint of 530 cfs for one unit. This constraint operates independently of the 59°F temperature constraint. Frequently, the flow constraint will preclude withdrawals from the Schuylkill River, regardless of the temperature constraint.

75. During the drought of 1965, the flow constraint of 530 cfs would have prohibited Schuylkill River withdrawals 167 days, while the temperature constraint would have prohibited withdrawals for only an additional 29 days, a total of 196 days. The historic record for the Schuylkill River, over 57 years, shows that on average, withdrawals for one unit at LGS would have been prohibited by flow 52 days per year. It can be seen therefore that for this period, the flow constraint would have been the limiting factor for many days each year.

76. Suspension of the 59°F temperature constraint alone will not provide a long-term source of makeup water for LGS. Available show, however, that a temporary suspension of that constraint will permit Schuylkill River withdrawals for some number of additional days. PECO's analysis of available temperature and dissolved oxygen data shows that the proposed substitution will probably not provide

significant benefits by yielding a great number of additional days of Schuylkill water availability in drought periods, such as 1985 to date and as anticipated for the remainder of the year.

77. Accordingly, a correlation was conducted to determine benefits in terms of additional days of water availability for years of interest. In 1968, a year in which flow in the Schuylkill River dropped below 530 cfs on 55 days (an average year), temperature and dissolved oxygen data were available 276 days. Considering this data, water could have been withdrawn 177 days or 64% of the time under the present flow and temperature constraints. Substituting dissolved oxygen monitoring for the temperature would have permitted water withdrawals on 41 more days or 218 days total, 79% of the year.

78. Dissolved oxygen data were unavailable for 1965, the drought year of record, but 1966 had almost as many low flow days and was therefore a good representative of severe drought conditions. In 1966, data were available 326 days for a correlation. Water could have been withdrawn 122 days or 37% of the time under present flow and temperature constraints. Substituting dissolved oxygen monitoring would have permitted withdrawals on 50 more days or a total of 172 days, 53% of the year. Only 20 of these days, however, would be in the months of June through December.

79. Review of the recent drought years of 1980 and 1981 indicates that substituting dissolved oxygen monitoring for temperature constraints may not significantly increase the number of days water could be withdrawn from the Schuylkill River. In 1980, data were available for a correlation on 296 days. Of these, water could be withdrawn based on flow and temperature constraints on 153 days or 52% of the time. Substituting DO monitoring would have increased

withdrawals by only four days or 53% of the year. Those four days were in the months June through December.

80. In 1981, data were available 287 days for a correlation. Of these, water could be withdrawn based on flow and temperature constraints on 187 days or 65% of the time. Substituting DO monitoring would have increased withdrawals by six days or 67% of the year. Five of those days were in the months June through December.

81. Cooling water needs for Limerick during 1985 for the continuation of startup will reach an average of 22 cfs during the months of September, October and November. By substitution DO monitoring for the temperature limitation, a reduction or saving of about 44 acre-feet in the amount of water PECO would need from water supply storage would result for each additional day that water can be withdrawn from the Schuylkill River. Modeled against the drought year 1966, 20 days would be saved for the balance of 1985 or a net reduction of 880 acre-feet from storage.

82. Recognizing that stream flow and dissolved oxygen constraints will prevent withdrawals at certain times, particularly in a drought scenario for 1985, another source of makeup water will be necessary for the interim period remaining in 1985. During that short interim period, releases will be requested from existing water storage supplies.

83. In view of the inventory of water supply storage facilities under DRBC control, the Blue Marsh Reservoir appears to be the most probable source of such releases. In authorizing construction of the Blue Marsh Reservoir, Congress designated 8,000 acre-feet of storage for water supply needs.

84. The release of water supplies from the reservoir has undergone environmental review in two environmental statements prepared by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers ("COE"). In neither document did COE determine that there would be an adverse environmental impact from the release of water from the water supply storage for the benefit of water supply users. To the contrary, COE found that the release of those waters would have a beneficial impact upon overall water quality in that stretch of the Schuylkill River.

85. PECO acknowledges that the long-term use of Blue Marsh for LGS would conflict with anticipated needs of public water suppliers along the Schuylkill River. However, PECO is merely requesting releases from water supply storage on a temporary basis for 1985. Moreover, PECO is not requesting releases from water quality storage, but only from water supply storage.

86. PECO recognizes that Blue Marsh Reservoir must be available to assist in meeting the needs of downstream users in a drought and that DRBC has authority to use the water supply storage of Blue Marsh Reservoir to meet downstream water quality objectives. Nonetheless, the temporary short-term use of Blue Marsh Reservoir should not be precluded, as two water suppliers have argued, simply because drought conditions might require releases from the water supply storage. Under the "pooled water" concept, drought hardships must be shared on an equitable basis among all Basin users. Equitable demands upon other impoundments (e.g., Beltzville) would be made to meet flow augmentation needs for water supply and water quality in a drought.

87. The COE Blue Marsh Lake Water control Manual (Final) states at p. 7-13 that the 8,000 acre-feet of water supply storage in Blue Marsh Reservoir is equivalent to a continuous yield of 55 cfs. Of this

amount, 9 cfs is currently under contract with the Western Berks Water Authority and an additional quantity is released pursuant to the DRBC's authorization for the use of other existing downstream users. The remaining amount is therefore available to meet other "current water supply needs" as determined by DRBC.

88. Accordingly, the release of a maximum monthly average of 22 cfs for LGS for the short interim period requested by PECO will have no adverse effect upon other users or potential users along the Schuylkill River below Blue Marsh Reservoir. Further, inasmuch as PECO proposes merely to receive releases of water from an existing reservoir via facilities, structures, and mechanisms already in use, there will be no adverse impact to the environment.

89. No adverse effect on recreational use of Blue Marsh - The release of water from Blue Marsh Reservoir in amounts required by PECO would not adversely affect recreational use of the Reservoir. The COE Blue Marsh Lake Water Control Manual (Final) states that the Reservoir should be maintained at elevation 290 feet throughout the summer months for the benefit of recreational use. The Manual states at p. 8-3 that the recreational facilities are usable from the top of the summer pool (elevation 290 feet) to a drawn down elevation of 283 feet.

90. PECO analyzed several critical years to determine the possible effects of the drawdown resulting from PECO's requested releases. In its analysis, PECO assumed one unit at full load operation at an average consumptive use of 27 cfs throughout the period of water unavailability from natural flows of the Schuylkill River until September 30, the end of the recreation season, and included the 9 cfs under contract to the Western Berks Water Authority, the full conservation release of 41 cfs, and 5 cfs as evaporation.

91. For 1955, an average year for flow in the Schuylkill River, PECO found that during the summer months, the pool elevation would be drawn down less than one foot.

92. PECO analyzed the situation for 1980 because that year Schuylkill flows were 20 percent below average. It was determined that drawdown from the requested releases would have been about two feet. PECO also simulated withdrawals for 1965 because 1965 represents the worst year of record for low flows in the Tulpehocken Creek and therefore the year of lowest supplies to the Reservoir. PECO determined that its requested releases would have resulted in a draw down at the end of the recreational season of approximately 4.5 feet.

93. Thus, the requested releases of water for PECO and the resulting drawdown of the Reservoir, under worst case conditions, would result in the Blue Marsh Reservoir water level 2.5 feet higher than the design drawn down elevation of 283 feet. This margin of drawdown would remain available for other concurrent users of Blue Marsh water and would have not detrimental effect on recreation.

V. Conclusion

94. In sum, grant of the requested temporary substitution of Instream monitoring of dissolved oxygen levels for the 59°F temperature constraint on withdrawals from the Schuylkill River and, as needed, release of water from the Blue Marsh Reservoir or other Basin water supply storage will permit scheduled operation of LGS. There will be no adverse impacts from either the temporary suspension of the 59°F temperature constraint or the release of water from Basin storage. Maintenance of water quality in the Schuylkill River below LGS will be ensured by instream monitoring of dissolved oxygen levels and ceasing withdrawals of Schuylkill natural flows when dissolved oxygen levels fall below acceptable levels.

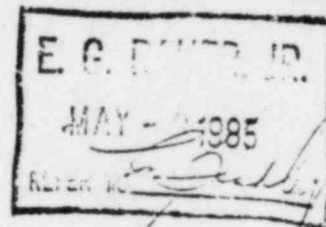
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Application by the Philadelphia
Electric Company to temporarily revise
Docket No. D-69-210 CP (Final) -
Limerick Generating Station

Interested Parties

Attached is a portion of the preliminary docket which summarizes the application by the Philadelphia Electric Company currently pending before the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC). This partial docket was prepared for the convenience of interested parties.

The complete application is available at DRBC's office and will be available at the public hearing on May 7, 1985.

An amended application was received on April 24, 1985, which requested that the application be considered for revision of the Comprehensive Plan as well as approval under Section 3.8 of the Delaware River Basin Compact and the amended application evaluated the benefits of the proposed substitution of the dissolved oxygen limitation for the temperature constraint for various drought years and an average year.

The draft docket does not include complete staff findings, nor does it propose any decision by the Commission. Additional information will be considered from the public record on this application.

Upon consideration of the testimony received at the public hearing on May 7 and written comments received by May 14, the Commission will make a decision on this application by the Philadelphia Electric Company.

Gerald M. Hansler

DRAFT

Preliminary
Subject to Revision
5/2/85

DOCKET NO. D-69-210 CP (FINAL)(REVISED)

DELAWARE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

Philadelphia Electric Company
Limerick Electric Generating Station
Limerick Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania

PROCEEDINGS

The Philadelphia Electric Company (PECO) applied, on March 21, 1985, for a temporary modification of Docket D-69-210 CP (Final). The application was amended with a submission of supplemental information on April 24, 1985.

The application is being reviewed for temporary revision of the project in the Comprehensive Plan and approval of these temporary changes under Section 3.8 of the Delaware River Basin Compact. The Montgomery County Planning Commission has been notified of pending action on this docket. A public hearing on this application by PECO will be held by the DRBC on May 7, 1985.

DESCRIPTION

Purpose.-- The purpose of this project is to obtain temporary relief, through December 31, 1985, from two existing docket limitations and thereby increase the frequency that water may be withdrawn from the Schuylkill River for evaporation at Limerick Unit No. 1. The two existing limitations are: (1) PECO may not withdraw water from the Schuylkill River for evaporative use at their Limerick Station when the temperature rises above 59° F and (2) water for evaporative use may not be withdrawn from the Schuylkill River when the flow at the Pottstown gage falls below 530 cfs (one Limerick unit in

operation). The applicant also has requested, as necessary, release of varying amounts of water not exceeding 32.5 cfs, from water supply storage; and that the flow constraint contained in said docket to be unapplicable to any such releases.

Location.— The only change in location of any project facilities is the proposed location of six dissolved oxygen monitors in lieu of the previously proposed temperature monitor at Pottstown.

The six dissolved oxygen monitors will be located in the pool area behind each of the six dams between the Limerick project site and Fairmount Dam. The six dams and the location of each are as follows:

Fairmount Dam	92.47 - 8.49
Flat Rock Dam	92.47 - 15.6
Plymouth Dam	92.47 - 20.7
Norristown Dam	92.47 - 23.75
Black Rock Dam	92.47 - 36.6
Vincent Dam	92.47 - 44.7

A seventh dissolved oxygen monitoring station presently exists at the Limerick site and PECO will continue to sample at this location.

No changes are proposed in the location of any of the intake or discharge facilities as described in Docket D-69-210 CP (Final).

Physical features.

a. Design criteria.— The proposed substitution of dissolved oxygen limitations of an average of 5.0 mg/l and 4.0 mg/l instantaneous in lieu of the current temperature limitation (59° F) is requested so as to reduce the number of days that PECO would be required to replace their evaporative losses from other sources.

The applicant has estimated that the number of days it would be permitted to evaporate Schuylkill River water by substituting the dissolved oxygen limitations for the temperature criteria could increase by 20 days during a drought year like 1966 or 41 days during an average year like 1968. However, review of the recent drought years of 1980 and 1981 indicates that the substitution of dissolved oxygen monitoring for temperature constraints would have added only four days between June and December in 1980 and five days between June and December in 1981 when the Schuylkill River could have been used.

The request for the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) to release water from storage, whenever the proposed dissolved oxygen limitations or current flow limitations would require PECO to replace all evaporative losses, is designed to allow PECO to start and complete the testing of the Limerick I facility prior to having a permanent alternative water supply available. The applicant has requested that the releases be made from the Blue Marsh Reservoir, or other basin water supply storages.

The proposed dissolved oxygen monitoring will include water sampling at least six times per day at regular intervals. The location of the dissolved oxygen monitors will be in the pool area upstream of each dam where the minimum level of dissolved oxygen should occur and the specific location of each monitor will be based on accessibility, availability of power and protection from vandalism. The probe will be positioned below the midpoint of the water column to avoid surface effects.

The quantity of water that may be needed, if permitted to operate in accordance with this application will vary with the testing schedule to gradually ascend to full power. During the first two months, the unit would operate at increasing levels up to 50 percent of power. During the third month, it would increase to 75 percent of full power and then during the next two months, it should increase to full power with the overall test program of about six months.

b. Facilities.-- All existing facilities of the Limerick Electric Generating Project remain as approved by Docket D-69-210 CP (Final) and the only new facilities required by this application for revision is the addition of the dissolved oxygen monitors.

The requested release of water from existing storage could include existing storage and release facilities, and would not involve any new construction.

Cost.-- The overall cost of the proposed dissolved oxygen monitors is estimated to be \$95,000.

Relationship to the Comprehensive Plan.-- The applicant is requesting revision of the Limerick Generating Station Project as included in the Comprehensive Plan by Docket D-69-210 CP (Final).

The applicant has also requested that water be released from storage regulated by the Commission whenever docket constraints would otherwise prohibit the evaporative use at the Limerick Generating Station. The only storage presently owned and regulated by DRBC in the Schuylkill Basin is storage in Blue Marsh Reservoir. The DRBC Comprehensive Plan provisions governing the use of Blue Marsh Reservoir are included in DRBC Resolution No. 84-7, adopted on April 25, 1984, and also included in Article 2 of the Commission's Water Code of the Delaware River Basin; Section 2.5.5. Coordinated Operation of Lower Basin and Hydroelectric Reservoirs During a Basinwide Drought.

FINDINGS

The Limerick Generating Station was included in the Comprehensive Plan by Docket decision D-69-210 CP (Final) on November 5, 1975, which also incorporated the project description and docket decision D-69-210 CP dated March 29, 1973. Docket D-69-210 CP (5/29/73) includes a section headed "FINDINGS" subheading "Source of Water Supply 1. Schuylkill River" which reads as follows:

"Schuylkill River water at the plant site may be used for nonconsumptive use whenever the effluent discharged back to the river meets all applicable water quality standards.

"Schuylkill River water at the plant may be used for consumptive use when flow (not including future augmentations of flow from Commission-sponsored projects) as measured at the Pottstown gage is in excess of 530 cfs (342 mgd) with one unit in operation and 560 cfs (362 mgd) with two units in operation with the following exceptions:

"(a) There shall be no withdrawals when river water temperatures below the Limerick station are above 15° C except during April, May and June when the flow as measured at the Pottstown gage is in excess of 1791 cfs (1158 mgd).

"(b) Use of the Schuylkill River will be limited to a withdrawal that will result in an effluent that meets all applicable water quality standards.

"The constraints on nonconsumptive use of Schuylkill River water are necessary to prevent violation of total dissolved solids, stream quality objectives and effluent quality requirements of the Commission's water quality regulations. The constraint on consumptive use of Schuylkill River water is to protect water quantity and water quality below the Limerick Station. Both sets of constraints would be suspended in the event of any operational emergency requiring a shutdown of the plant."

Pertinent provisions of DRBC Resolution No. 84-7 are as follows:

"During 'drought' conditions as defined by Figure 1 in Section 2.5.3A, the Francis E. Walter, Prompton, Beltzville, Blue Marsh, Nockamixon, Lake Wallenpaupack and Mongaup hydroelectric reservoirs will be utilized to complement the drought management operations of the New York City reservoirs.

"While it is clearly understood that the water supply storage at Beltzville and Blue Marsh reservoirs is to be used for water supply and to control salinity intrusion into the Delaware estuary during low flow periods, it is also recognized that extensive recreational development is established on these lakes, which should be protected to the extent possible. Accordingly, the operation plans for both of these reservoirs, as well as Nockamixon, in drought emergencies have recognized these multiple uses, with water supply having precedence."

Additional findings will be considered by the Commission after consideration of the record compiled at the Public Hearing of May 7, 1985.