

February 12, 1997

DCS
PDR

EA 96-177

Mr. Louis F. Storz
Senior Vice President-
Nuclear Operations
Public Service Electric and Gas Company
P.O. Box 236
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

Dear Mr. Storz,

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter dated January 10, 1997 and your payment of \$80,000 for the civil penalty proposed by NRC in a letter dated December 11, 1996. In your response, you do not dispute the Notice of Violation and acknowledge that the root cause of the violations was, in part, imprudence on the part of the former manager of Nuclear Safety Review. The NRC's expectation is that the penalty in this case will serve to remind Public Service Electric and Gas Company and its employees that actions to ensure that employees feel free to raise safety concerns without fear of retaliation must be continuous and lasting.

In addition, your response describes actions taken to ensure that your employees feel free to raise safety issues without fear of harassment, intimidation, or discrimination. These actions included a self-assessment and two surveys that provided evidence of progress in this area. We will continue to monitor your efforts to maintain a safety conscious work environment at your facility and we will be interested in the results of any future self-assessments or surveys of your work environment.

Your corrective actions will be examined during future inspections.

Sincerely,
Original Signed By
James Lieberman
James Lieberman, Director
Office of Enforcement

Docket No. 50-410
License No. NPF-69

cc: H. Miller, RI

DISTRIBUTION:

JLieberman, OE
MStein, OE
DHolody, RI
Day File
EA File

PDR	WUDOCs	OE <i>gm. d.</i>	RA:RI <i>Don Holody Region I</i>	D:OE
<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES	MStein	HMiller	JLieberman
<input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> NO	02/11/97	02/7/97	02/11/97

Doc Name: G:\OECASES\96177ACK.MHS

9702130176 970212
PDR ADOCK 05000410
PDR

1/0
Tel 14