

Public Service
Electric and Gas
Company

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September 13, 1985

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

Dear Dr. Murley:

SIGNIFICANT CONSTRUCTION DEFICIENCY
HEAT BUILD-UP IN EDG CABINETS
HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION

On April 3, 1985, a verbal report was made to Region I, Office of Inspection and Enforcement representative, Mr. E. Kelly, advising of a significant construction deficiency concerning heat build-up due to three (3) transformers mounted inside the Generator Control Cabinets. On May 6 and August 7, 1985, interim reports were sent to your office. The following interim report is provided in accordance with 10CFR50.55(e).

Onsite tests confirm that temperatures within the Hope Creek generator potential and excitation control panels, as designed, would exceed the qualified limits of the exciter transformer insulation. Failure of the insulation would short circuit the transformer coil resulting in loss of excitation current to the generator. Loss of power from the Emergency Diesel Generators would adversely affect safe shutdown of the plant under emergency conditions. We therefore consider the subject condition to be reportable in accordance with 10CFR50.55(e).

In accordance with Colt Industries' recommendations, we plan to replace the center current transformer (CT) with a CT that presents a larger surface area to the airflow and Bechtel has prepared Design Change Package No. 7079 to increase and redirect the airflow through the control panel.

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We expect to provide you with a final report on this issue by November 1, 1985.

Very truly yours,

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

C Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Division of Reactor Construction Inspection
Washington, D. C. 20555

NRC Resident Inspector - Hope Creek
P. O. Box 241
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

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