



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

June 23, 1997

Docket File
50-354

Mr. Leon R. Eliason
Chief Nuclear Officer & President-
Nuclear Business Unit
Public Service Electric & Gas
Company
Post Office Box 236
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR WITHHOLDING INFORMATION FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE, HOPE
CREEK GENERATING STATION (HCGS) - SAFETY LIMIT MINIMUM CRITICAL
POWER RATIO (SLMCPR) TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS (TAC NO. M98309)

Dear Mr. Eliason:

By your application dated March 31, 1997 (LR-N97187), and General Electric's (GE) affidavit dated March 12, 1997, executed by Ralph J. Reda, submitted an application for license amendment concerning the HCGS SLMCPR Technical Specifications. The application identifies that Attachment 4 to the application contains information of a proprietary nature to GE and requests that it be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790.

GE stated that the submitted information should be considered exempt from mandatory public disclosure per 10 CFR Part 2, Section 2.790(a)(4) in that the information involves trades secrets and commercial or financial information as follows:

- (a) Information that discloses a process, method, or apparatus, including supporting data and analyses, where prevention of its use by General Electric's competitors without license from General Electric constitutes a competitive economic advantage over other companies.
- (b) Information which, if used by a competitor, would reduce the expenditure of resources or improve his competitive position in the design, manufacture, shipment, installation, assurance of quality, or licensing of a similar product.
- (c) The information identified in Attachment 4 to the March 31, 1997, application is classified as proprietary because it would provide other parties, including competitors, with information related to detailed results of analytical models, methods and processes, including computer codes, which GE has developed, requested NRC approval of, and applied to perform evaluations of the BWR. The development of the evaluation process along with the interpretation and application of the analytical results is derived from the extensive experience database and constitutes a major GE asset.

We have reviewed your application and the material in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 2.790 and, on the basis of your statements and GE's affidavit, have determined that the submitted information sought to be withheld contains proprietary commercial information.

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PDR ADOCK 05000354
P PDR

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Therefore, Attachment 4 to the March 31, 1997 application, marked as proprietary, will be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790(b)(5) and Section 103(b) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.

Withholding from public inspection shall not affect the right, if any, of persons properly and directly concerned to inspect the documents. If the need arises, we may send copies of this information to our consultants working in this area. We will, of course, ensure that the consultants have signed the appropriate agreements for handling proprietary information.

If the basis for withholding this information from public inspection should change in the future such that the information could then be made available for public inspection, you should promptly notify the NRC. You also should understand that the NRC may have cause to review this determination in the future, for example, if the scope of a Freedom of Information Act request includes your information. In all review situations, if the NRC makes a determination adverse to the above, you will be notified in advance of any public disclosure.

Sincerely,

/s/

David H. Jaffe, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate I-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-354

cc: See next page

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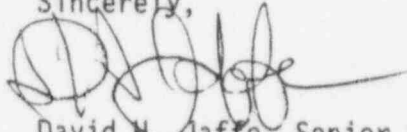
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David H. Jaffe', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David H. Jaffe, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate I-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-354

cc: See next page

Mr. Leon R. Eliason
Public Service Electric & Gas
Company

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