

May 7, 1997

Mr. Leon R. Eliason  
Chief Nuclear Officer and President  
Nuclear Business Unit  
Public Service Electric and Gas Company  
P.O. Box 236  
Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey 08038-0236

SUBJECT: HOPE CREEK PLANT PERFORMANCE REVIEW RESULTS

Dear Mr. Eliason:

On March 26, 1997, the NRC staff completed the semiannual Plant Performance Review (PPR) of the Hope Creek Nuclear Generating Station. The staff conducts these reviews for all operating nuclear power plants to develop an integrated understanding of safety performance. The results are used by NRC management to facilitate planning and allocation of inspection resources. The PPR for Hope Creek involved the participation of all technical divisions in evaluating inspection results and safety performance information for the period November 1996 through March 1997. PPRs provide NRC management with a current summary of licensee performance and serve as inputs to the NRC Systematic Assessment of Licensee Performance (SALP) and senior management meeting (SMM) reviews.

This letter advises you of our planned inspection effort resulting from the Hope Creek PPR review. It is provided to minimize the resource impact on your staff and to allow for scheduling conflicts and personnel availability to be resolved in advance of inspector arrival onsite. The enclosure details our inspection plan for the next 12 months. The rationale or basis for each inspection outside the core inspection program is provided so that you are aware of the reason for emphasis in these program areas. Resident inspections are not listed due to their ongoing and continuous nature.

We will inform you of any changes to the inspection plan. If you have any questions, please contact James C. Linville at 610-337-5129.

Sincerely,

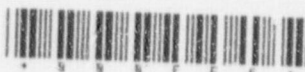
ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

James C. Linville, Chief  
Projects Branch 3  
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket No. 50-354

Enclosure: Planned NRC Inspections at Hope Creek

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cc w/encl:

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Mr. Leon R. Eliason

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DATE	04/14/97		04/16/97		04/17/97	

5/5/97  
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**ENCLOSURE**  
**Planned NRC Inspections at Hope Creek**  
**April 1, 1997 to April 1, 1998**  
**(Excluding Resident Inspector Reviews)**

REQ'D INSP PRO	TITLE/PROGRAM AREA	DRS/P BR	REQ'D DATE	TYPE INSPECTION/ REASON/COMMENTS
IP 71715	Extended Control Room Observations	DRP	970331	Review the effects of diminished operator staffing and prolonged overtime on plant operations. Assess the impact of equipment deficiencies on plant operations.
IP 62700	Safety Related Electrical Relay Controls	ESB	970914	Review the licensee's control of safety related electrical relays, including end of service life considerations.
IP 61726	Surveillance Program	PSB	971026	Review corrective actions implemented as a result of TSSIP in context described within original notice of violation.
IP 92903	Engineering Support to Operations	PSB	970706	Review engineering's ability to prioritize and resolve plant and control room deficiencies that unnecessarily impact or distract operators.
IP 81700	Security Program Weaknesses	EPSB	970413	Conduct a followup to the March 17, 1997 security inspection to ensure that remaining security program violations have been adequately addressed and corrected.
IP 82301	Monitor a Station Drill	EPSB	970706	Observe an emergency drill to evaluate the operation of the refurbished EOF, and new Salem OSC; followup on NUMARC EAL implementation, and progress in corrective action program implementation.
IP 84750	Radioactive Waste Treatment, and Effluent and Environmental Monitoring	RSB	970519	Core Inspection.
IP 84750	Radioactive Waste Treatment, and Effluent and Environmental Monitoring	RSB	970512	Core Inspection.
TI 62706	Followup - Maintenance Rule	OLHPB	970825	Followup on Maintenance Rule Inspection open items.
IP 37700	Design Basis Deficiencies	DRS	980401	Because of ongoing concerns with SW and SACS systems and the vulnerability of the EDG support system, inspections should be conducted to evaluate system conformance with its design bases.