



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

REGION I
2100 RENAISSANCE BLVD., SUITE 100
KING OF PRUSSIA, PA 19406-2713

March 2, 2016

Mr. Robert Braun
President and Chief Nuclear Officer
PSEG Nuclear LLC – N09
P.O. Box 236
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

**SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR HOPE CREEK GENERATING
STATION (REPORT 05000354/2015006)**

Dear Mr. Braun:

On February 11, 2016, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed its end-of-cycle performance review of Hope Creek Generating Station (Hope Creek). The NRC reviewed the most recent quarterly performance indicators (PIs) in addition to inspection results and enforcement actions from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of your facility during this period and its plans for future inspections at your facility.

The NRC determined that overall, Hope Creek operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and met all cornerstone objectives. The NRC determined the performance at Hope Creek during the most recent quarter was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Action Matrix because all inspection findings had very low (i.e., green) safety significance, and all PIs indicated that your performance was within the nominal, expected range (i.e., green). Therefore, the NRC plans to conduct ROP baseline inspections at your facility.

The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through December 31, 2017. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. In addition to baseline inspections, the NRC will perform Inspection Procedure (IP) 60855.1, "Operation of an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation at Operating Plants." As discussed below, the NRC will also perform Temporary Instruction (TI) 2515-191, "Inspection of the Implementation of Mitigation Strategies and Spent Fuel Pool Instrumentation Orders and Emergency Preparedness Communication/Staffing/Multi-Unit Dose Assessment Plans." The NRC provides the inspection plan to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues. The NRC will contact you as soon as possible to discuss changes to the inspection plan should circumstances warrant any changes. This inspection plan does not include security related inspections, which will be sent via separate, non-publicly available correspondence.

In response to the accident at Fukushima, the Commission issued Order EA-12-049, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Requirements for Mitigation Strategies for Beyond-Design-Basis External Events." This Order requires licensees to develop, implement, and maintain guidance and strategies to maintain or restore core cooling, containment, and spent fuel pool cooling capabilities following a beyond-design-basis external event. Additionally, the Commission issued Order EA-12-051, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Reliable Spent Fuel Pool Instrumentation." This Order requires licensees to have a reliable means of remotely monitoring wide-range Spent Fuel Pool levels to support effective prioritization of event mitigation and recovery actions in the event of a beyond-design-basis external event. The NRC is conducting audits of licensee efforts towards compliance with these Orders. The audit was completed for Hope Creek, and the information gathered will aid staff in development of the Final Safety Evaluation for the site. After the NRC staff receives the Final Compliance letter for the site, the Final Safety Evaluation will be issued. Then, the NRC staff will confirm through inspections the full implementation of the orders mentioned above by performing TI 2515-191, "Inspection of the Implementation of Mitigating Strategies and Spent Fuel Pool Instrumentation Orders and Emergency Preparedness Communications/Staffing/Multi-Unit Dose Assessment Plans."

From January 1 to December 31, 2015, the NRC issued three SL-IV traditional enforcement violations associated with impeding the regulatory process. The violations occurred over a 17 year period, and therefore the NRC has decided not to perform IP 92723, "Follow-up Inspection for Three or More Severity Level IV Traditional Enforcement Violations in the Same Area in a 12-Month Period." In accordance with NRC Inspection Manual Chapter 0305, "Operating Reactor Assessment Program," Section 13.02.b, the NRC will follow up one of the violations through a baseline inspection (71111.11B) listed in the enclosed inspection plan and the second through IP 92702, "Follow-up on Traditional Enforcement Actions Including Violations, Deviations, Confirmatory Action Letters, Confirmatory Orders, and Alternative Dispute Resolution Confirmatory Orders." Follow-up for the third violation was already completed through baseline inspection.

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

R. Braun

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Please contact me at (610) 337-5200 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Fred L. Bower, III, Chief
Project Branch 3
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos. 50-354
License Nos. NPF-57

Enclosure: Hope Creek Inspection/Activity Plan

cc w/encl: Distribution via ListServ

Please contact me at (610) 337-5200 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

/RA/

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ADAMS Accession No. **ML16055A328**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SUNSI Review		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Sensitive <input type="checkbox"/> Sensitive		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Publicly Available <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Publicly Available	
OFFICE	R1/DRP	R1/DRP	R1/DRP		
NAME	JHawkins/MXD per telecon	MDraxton/ MXD	FBower/ FLB		
DATE	02/22 /16	02/23 /16	02/ 23 /16		

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Hope Creek
Inspection / Activity Plan
01/01/2016 - 12/31/2017

Unit Number	Planned Dates		Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
	Start	End			
			TRI FI - TRIENNIAL FIRE PROTECTION		4
1	03/14/2016	03/18/2016	IP 7111105T	Fire Protection [Triennial]	
1	03/28/2016	04/01/2016	IP 7111105T	Fire Protection [Triennial]	
			EP - EP EXERCISE EVALUATION		1
1	05/16/2016	05/20/2016	IP 7111401	Exercise Evaluation	
			EXM8/15 - HOPE CREEK INITIAL EXAMINATION		5
1	07/18/2016	07/22/2016	U01925	FY16-HOPE CREEK INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSING EXAM	
1	08/22/2016	09/02/2016	U01925	FY16-HOPE CREEK INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSING EXAM	
			92702 - IP 92702		1
1	05/23/2016	05/26/2016	IP 92702	Followup On Corrective Actions For Violations And Deviations	
			71124 - ENVIRONMENTAL		1
1	06/06/2016	06/10/2016	IP 71124.07	Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program	
			71124 - RADIATION PROTECTION		1
1	06/20/2016	06/24/2016	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1	06/20/2016	06/24/2016	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	06/20/2016	06/24/2016	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1	06/20/2016	06/24/2016	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
1	06/20/2016	06/24/2016	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
			7111111B - HOPE CREEK REQUAL INSP W/ P/F RESULTS		2
1	09/12/2016	09/16/2016	IP 7111111B	Licensed Operator Requalification Program	
			71124 - RADIATION PROTECTION		1
1	09/12/2016	09/16/2016	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1	09/12/2016	09/16/2016	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	09/12/2016	09/16/2016	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1	09/12/2016	09/16/2016	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
1	09/12/2016	09/16/2016	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
			7111108G - INSERVICE INSPECTION		1
1	10/17/2016	10/21/2016	IP 7111108G	Inservice Inspection Activities - BWR	
			71124 - RADIATION PROTECTION		1
1	10/17/2016	10/21/2016	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1	10/17/2016	10/21/2016	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	10/17/2016	10/21/2016	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1	10/17/2016	10/21/2016	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	

This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.
This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.

Hope Creek
Inspection / Activity Plan
01/01/2016 - 12/31/2017

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	Start	End			
			71124 - RADIATION PROTECTION		1
1	10/17/2016	10/21/2016	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
			71124 - RADIATION PROTECTION		1
1	12/12/2016	12/16/2016	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1	12/12/2016	12/16/2016	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	12/12/2016	12/16/2016	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1	12/12/2016	12/16/2016	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
1	12/12/2016	12/16/2016	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
1	12/12/2016	12/16/2016	IP 71151-OR01	Occupational Exposure Control Effectiveness	
1	12/12/2016	12/16/2016	IP 71151-PR01	RETS/ODCM Radiological Effluent Occurrences	
			71152B - PI&R BIENNIAL		1
1	01/30/2017	02/03/2017	IP 71152B	Problem Identification and Resolution	
1	02/13/2017	02/17/2017	IP 71152B	Problem Identification and Resolution	
			MODS - PERMANENT PLANT MODIFICATIONS		3
1	03/13/2017	03/17/2017	IP 7111117T	Evaluations of Changes, Tests, and Experiments and Permanent Plant Modifications	
1	03/27/2017	03/31/2017	IP 7111117T	Evaluations of Changes, Tests, and Experiments and Permanent Plant Modifications	
			EP - EP PROGRAM INSPECTION		1
1	05/15/2017	05/19/2017	IP 7111402	Alert and Notification System Testing	
1	05/15/2017	05/19/2017	IP 7111403	Emergency Preparedness Organization Staffing and Augmentation System	
1	05/15/2017	05/19/2017	IP 7111405	Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies	
1	05/15/2017	05/19/2017	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	
			7111107T - TRIENNIAL HEAT SINK		1
1	06/19/2017	06/23/2017	IP 7111107T	Heat Sink Performance	
			71124 - RADIATION PROTECTION - EFFLUENTS		1
1	07/10/2017	07/14/2017	IP 71124.06	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment	
			71124 - RADIATION PROTECTION		1
1	07/24/2017	07/28/2017	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1	07/24/2017	07/28/2017	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	07/24/2017	07/28/2017	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1	07/24/2017	07/28/2017	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
1	07/24/2017	07/28/2017	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
			ISFSI - ISFSI LOADING CAMPAIGN INSPECTION		1
1	08/07/2017	08/11/2017	IP 60855	Operation Of An ISFSI	

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	Start	End			
			ISFSI - ISFSI LOADING CAMPAIGN INSPECTION		1
1	08/07/2017	08/11/2017	IP 60855.1	Operation of an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation at Operating Plants	
			T1-191 - FUKUSHIMA LESSONS-LEARNED		1
1	08/21/2017	08/25/2017	IP 2515/191	Inspection of Licensee's Responses to Order EA-12-049, EA-12-051 & EP Info Request March 12, 2012	
			71124 - RADIATION PROTECTION		1
1	10/02/2017	10/06/2017	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1	10/02/2017	10/06/2017	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	10/02/2017	10/06/2017	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1	10/02/2017	10/06/2017	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
1	10/02/2017	10/06/2017	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
			71124.08 - RADWASTE		1
1	12/04/2017	12/08/2017	IP 71124.08	Radioactive Solid Waste Processing and Radioactive Material Handling, Storage, and Transportation	
			71124 - RADIATION PROTECTION		1
1	12/04/2017	12/09/2017	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1	12/04/2017	12/09/2017	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	12/04/2017	12/09/2017	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1	12/04/2017	12/09/2017	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
1	12/04/2017	12/09/2017	IP 71151-OR01	Occupational Exposure Control Effectiveness	
1	12/04/2017	12/09/2017	IP 71151-PR01	RETS/ODCM Radiological Effluent Occurrences	

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