



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I
475 ALLENDALE ROAD
KING OF PRUSSIA, PA 19406-1415

January 6, 2012

EA-11-118

Mr. Timothy S. Rausch
Senior Vice President and Chief Nuclear Officer
PPL Susquehanna, LLC
769 Salem Boulevard, NUCSB3
Berwick, PA 18603

SUBJECT: SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION - NRC INVESTIGATION
REPORT NO. 1-2010-055

Dear Mr. Rausch:

This letter refers to the investigation by the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Office of Investigations (OI), conducted at the PPL Susquehanna, LLC (PPL) Susquehanna Steam Electric Station (SSES), that was completed on May 16, 2011. The OI investigation was conducted to determine whether a licensed senior reactor operator (SRO) with Unescorted Access (UA) at SSES, willfully failed to promptly report to PPL that a legal action had been issued to him by a law enforcement agency, as required by NRC regulations. PPL had previously identified this failure and notified the NRC.

Based on the evidence gathered during the OI investigation, the NRC has concluded that the SRO had been issued a legal action on July 10, 2010, consisting of a complaint and summons issued by the Indiana State Police. The SRO did not report the legal action to his supervisor or any other PPL official when he returned to SSES and worked a mid-shift on July 18, 2010. The SRO, who reported the action to PPL on his second day back to work (July 21, 2010), testified to OI that he had not been scheduled to return to work until July 21, 2010, but had returned early, on July 18, 2010, to assist with a plant flooding event. He stated that he had not reported the arrest on July 18, 2010, because he was focused on the flooding event and was also not certain about the status of the legal action (i.e., if anything would come of it). However, the NRC concluded that the SRO was aware of the requirement, specified in NRC regulations, to promptly report any legal action, regardless of the outcome of the legal action or what was occurring at the plant.

The NRC determined that the SRO, who is no longer employed by PPL, violated Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Section 73.56(g) which, in part, requires individuals maintaining unescorted access to promptly report any legal actions taken by a law enforcement authority that could result in incarceration or requires a court appearance. PPL implementing procedure NDAP-00-2002, Revision 9, "Fitness for Duty/Behavior Observation Program," describes promptly as "on the first day back to work."

A Notice of Violation (NOV) is being issued on this date to the SRO. That NOV is available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room and from the NRC's Agency-wide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. Based on our review of the specific circumstances regarding this issue, the NRC is not taking any enforcement action against PPL.

You are not required to respond to this letter. However, should you choose to respond, your response should be sent to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Regional Administrator, Region I, 475 Allendale Rd., King of Prussia, PA 19406, and marked "Open by Addressee Only," within 30 days of the date of this letter, with a copy to the NRC Resident Inspector at SSES. In accordance with 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 and from ADAMS. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Mr. Paul Krohn at 610-337-5120.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Darrell J. Roberts", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Darrell J. Roberts, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos.: 50-387, 50-388
License Nos.: NPF-14, NPF-22

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Sincerely,

/RA/

Darrell J. Roberts, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos.: 50-387, 50-388
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SUNSI Review Complete: MMM (Reviewer's Initials) ML120060304

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*See previous sheet for concurrence

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