

Local Volunteers and PPL Susquehanna Prepare Together

To ensure the public is properly protected in the unlikely event of an emergency, the professionals at PPL and the dedicated volunteers of the emergency management agencies that surround the Susquehanna plant train and plan together.

“The best way to prepare for any emergency is to have coordination among all of the local emergency support services,” said Cindy Bogart, coordinator for Hollenback Township’s emergency agency.

Irene Miller, coordinator for Columbia County Emergency Management Agency, agreed. “We have a very close relationship with PPL Susquehanna’s emergency planning group. They provide much of our training and are instrumental in ensuring our plans are constantly updated and that we have open communications with the plant.”

Although the emergency agencies are required to drill only once every two years, the local agencies surrounding the Susquehanna plant choose to practice every year and are the only ones in the state to do so.

The extra practice pays off. The Federal Emergency Management Agency, which grades the municipalities every two years, found only two minor errors in the 2002 drill. Most of the municipalities received perfect scores.

“The local municipal volunteers have one of the strongest emergency management programs in the nation,” said Nevin Dressler, PPL Susquehanna emergency coordinator for off-site

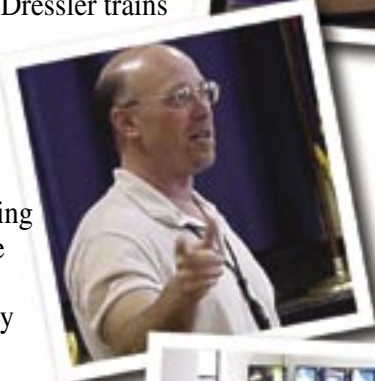
agencies. “The volunteers are some of the best people to work with and their dedication and concern for their communities is inspiring.”

Prior to each drill, Dressler trains more than 1,000 volunteers in the 27 municipalities surrounding the plant. He also trains professionals at nursing homes, hospitals, fire companies, schools and businesses — any organization that has special needs or poses special risks.

During a drill, which is planned by Susquehanna’s emergency planning group, PPL employees evaluate how well each emergency agency respond. This year, the drill will be held on Oct. 15.

“Because of our constant training, solid emergency plans and agreements with other communities for extra resources should we require them, I am confident that we are more prepared than most communities in the country to handle any emergency, not just a nuclear emergency,” Miller said.

Community members who are interested in serving as volunteers are encouraged to contact their local emergency agency.



From top

1. Luzerne County radiological officer and PPL Susquehanna employee Rich Carpenter instructs Huntington Township Emergency Management Agency member Ralph Ford on the use of radiological instrumentation.
2. Columbia County training officer Larry Lahiff performs a skit on what not to do during an emergency.
3. Nevin Dressler, PPL Susquehanna emergency coordinator for off-site agencies, conducts a training seminar.
4. Columbia County volunteers attend training seminar.

Inside this Issue

- Susquehanna Receives Industry Awards
- Plant Celebrates 20th Anniversary
- Berwick Teacher Takes Sabbatical at Plant

Municipal Leaders and PPL Susquehanna Working Together

To help local officials better serve their communities, PPL employees are meeting with elected officials in each of the 27 municipalities that surround the Susquehanna plant to discuss energy issues.

“Engaging in a conversation with local officials is the best way to ensure that we understand what our local communities need and want,” said Herb Woodeshick, special assistant to the president for the plant.

“The information we share allows us both to make sound decisions that ensures the health of our communities,” he said.

Topics that Woodeshick and Joe Scopelliti, supervisor-Energy Information Center, are discussing with officials include security improvements, emergency planning, plant operations and PPL’s community involvement.

“Over the years, PPL has worked to keep an open dialog with the communities that surround the plant,” said Lucille Whitmire, Berwick Borough Council president. “The meeting topics, like most of PPL’s communications with local leaders, were presented in lay terms and show us that PPL Susquehanna operates safely and is a good neighbor.”

New Dry Storage Units Arrive

Susquehanna plant crews are busy preparing 10 new horizontal concrete modules on the dry cask storage pad for the 2004 spent fuel transfer campaign.

The modules began arriving at the plant by rail in August.

The new modules bring the total at Susquehanna to 39. The storage pad can accommodate 105 storage modules if necessary – enough capacity to store used fuel until 2014. Twenty-five modules already are in use.

The dry cask storage area, located inside plant security fences, was designed to safely store used nuclear fuel until the federal government builds a permanent repository.



New dry cask concrete modules arrive at the plant.

The earliest expected opening date of the proposed Yucca Mountain project in Nevada is 2010.

Used fuel removed from the reactor during refueling outages is placed in storage

pools. After the used fuel as cooled for a minimum of five years, workers transfer it to dry storage to make room for additional fuel bundles from the reactor that need to go into the pools.

The two dry storage fuel transfers planned for this summer were incorporated into the 2004 and 2005 schedule. Eleven dry storage canisters will be filled next summer and 11 more in the summer of 2005.

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PPL Susquehanna Recognized By Nuclear Industry for Performance Practices

The Nuclear Energy Institute, an industry policy setting organization, has recognized two of PPL Susquehanna’s operational programs for their potential to set standards of excellence for the rest of the industry.

Based on safety, productivity, innovation, cost savings and transferability to other plants, the institute recently honored the Susquehanna plant for top industry practices in fuel performance and

equipment reliability.

“Both of these programs are major contributors to the safe and reliable operation of our plant,” said Rich Anderson, vice president-nuclear operations.

“It’s gratifying that the industry is recognizing the quality programs at Susquehanna. These programs use innovative solutions to address industry-wide challenges.”

International Team to Evaluate Station Performance

This month, an international team of industry reviewers will evaluate the operations of PPL Susquehanna.

The World Association of Nuclear Operators will conduct the on-site

portion of its peer review of Susquehanna Sept. 15 to 26. The industry evaluates and assesses nuclear power plants every 18 to 24 months to help identify strengths and areas of improvement for maximizing plant safety and reliability.

“The WANO Peer Review is an excellent opportunity to present our performance improvement programs and to learn industry best practices,” said Bryce Shriver, senior vice president and

chief nuclear officer.

The review team will focus on programs that support sustainable, high levels of plant performance; well-managed and understood safety, design and operational margins; a highly skilled, knowledgeable and collaborative workforce; the prevention of unplanned, long-duration shutdowns; sustainable, event-free operations; and high levels of plant worker safety.

Twenty Years of Safe Operation

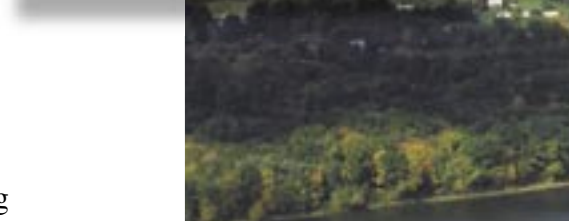
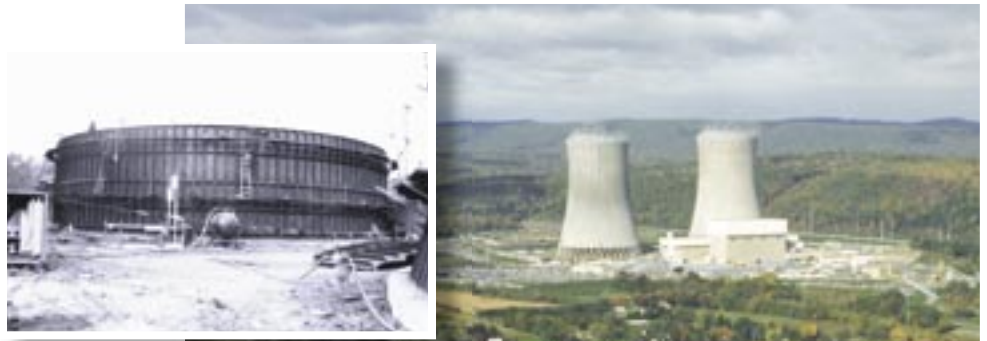
After 10 years of construction and a year of testing, the stage was set. Control room operators carefully monitored the withdrawal of control rods and the Susquehanna power plant began to produce heat.

Five percent... 10 percent... 20 percent power. Operators carefully monitored the plant as it connected to the electric grid for the first time.

Several months later, Susquehanna Unit 1 began commercial operation on June 8, 1983.

“The safe, reliable and productive operation of our plant over the past two decades is a testament to the outstanding efforts of dedicated PPL employees and the tremendous support we’ve had from our community neighbors,” said Bryce Shriver, senior vice president and chief nuclear officer.

“We will use our past success as a springboard for our future so Susquehanna can continue to provide electricity to northeastern and central



Construction of the Susquehanna nuclear power plant took 10 years.

Pennsylvania with minimal impact on the environment,” he said.

PPL plans to submit a license renewal application to the Nuclear Regulator Commission in 2006. The renewal would extend Susquehanna’s 40-year operating licenses an additional 20 years to 2042 for Unit 1 and 2044 for Unit 2.

It Seems Like “Just Yesterday”

U.S. President: **Ronald Reagan**

Vice President: **George H. W. Bush**

Events from 1983

- “Trading Places” and “Ghostbusters” premiere.
- Camcorders and compact discs are introduced.
- More than 125 million viewers tune in to the last episode of M*A*S*H.
- U.S. invades Grenada after a coup on the island.
- Vanessa Williams becomes the first African-American Miss America.
- U.S. Embassy in Beirut is bombed, 237 people killed.
- Cabbage Patch Kids are released.
- Australia wins the America’s Cup for the first time in 132 years.
- Sally K. Ride is first U.S. female astronaut in space aboard space shuttle Challenger.
- The FCC authorizes Motorola to begin testing cellular phone service in Chicago.

Susquehanna’s Historical Milestones

1967: The company announces plans for the Susquehanna nuclear power plant project.

1973: Construction begins.

1982: Plant and community holds first full-scale emergency plan exercise.

1983: Unit 1 declares commercial operation.

1985: Unit 2 declares commercial operation.

1987: Nuclear Regulatory Commission names Susquehanna one of the five best nuclear plants in the country.

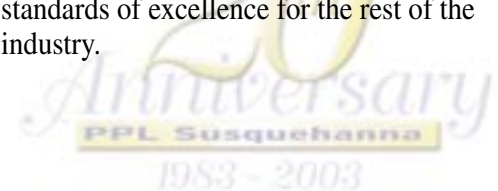
1996: Work begins on the dry fuel storage facility.

1999: First bundle of spent fuel is transferred from spent fuel pools into dry fuel storage.

2001: Station sets a generation record, producing more than 17.8 billion kilowatt-hours.

2002: Susquehanna announces its intentions to apply for operating license renewal. ... Plant achieves Occupational Safety and Health Administration’s VPP Star status. ... Unit 2 sets a station run record with 526 days of continuous generation.

2003: Plant crews complete most successful planned outage in history. ... Susquehanna’s fuel performance and equipment reliability programs are recognized for their potential to set standards of excellence for the rest of the industry.





House Approves \$765 Million for Yucca Mountain

In July, the U.S. House of Representatives approved the fiscal year 2004 appropriations bill for energy and water development projects, which includes \$765 million for the federal government's nuclear waste management program.

Congress last year approved Yucca Mountain, Nev., as a suitable site for development of an underground disposal facility for used nuclear fuel from commercial nuclear power plants and U.S. defense programs.

The House's overwhelming approval of sufficient Yucca Mountain funding for next year shows that its members recognize the importance of the project to the nation's environmental goals and its overall energy security, said John Kane, the Nuclear Energy Institute's senior vice president of governmental affairs.

Greenspan Says Country Needs Nuclear Energy

Federal Reserve Board Chairman Alan Greenspan recently said the "advantages of nuclear power are very considerable."

Testifying on the economic outlook at a May joint hearing of the congressional Joint Economic Committee, Greenspan said the nation "ought to be spending more time at least looking and contemplating the issue of nuclear power."

Greenspan said that if the country is going to continue to expand its energy base, it will have to start looking at nuclear energy "as a potential reservoir of new sources of energy" that aren't available by other means.

Nuclear Plant Security Gets 'A' in Homeland Security Report Card

U.S. nuclear power plants received the only "A" in a security report released in July that examined the nation's critical infrastructure.

The report by the Progressive Policy Institute – the Washington, D.C.-based policy arm of the Democratic Leadership Council – examined homeland security in seven major categories and 28 subcategories.

The report stated that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, in reaction to the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks, quickly issued heightened security regulations for all nuclear power plants, which already were "extremely secure" facilities.

During the past two years, the nuclear power industry has spent nearly \$400 million on security enhancements.

NRC Plans Toughen Security Tests

A revised federal testing program calls for more frequent and realistic mock terrorist attack drills at the nation's nuclear power plants.

The improved commando-style attack exercises could begin next year. They will be designed to test the improved security measures implemented during the past two years by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response.

The NRC is working to make the exercises better reflect actual attack conditions. The programs pit a team of "attackers" against plant security. Additionally, the commission plans to schedule new attack drills every three years rather than every eight years.

The "force-on-force" maneuvers are just one component of the new NRC-mandated security at commercial nuclear plants.

Susquehanna Riverlands Environmental Preserve

PPL provides year-round outdoor education and recreation at the Susquehanna Riverlands. Upcoming environmental programs, as well as natural and cultural history presentations, include:

- Stalking the Hunter's Moon, Oct. 10. Experience nature at night and investigate facts and folklore of the moon.
- Wetlands in Transition, Oct. 19. See nature prepare for colder days that are soon to come.
- Great Pumpkin 5K Run/Walk, Oct. 25. Enjoy the trails of the Susquehanna Riverlands to benefit the Berwick YMCA.
- Using Map and Compass, Nov. 2. A must for hikers, snowmobilers, hunters, backpackers or those who enjoy "getting off the beaten path."
- Teaching Environmental Awareness Workshop, Nov. 4.
- Animal Skulls and What They Tell Us, Nov. 9. Learn about an animal and the environment in which it lived by studying its skull.
- Old-Time Harvest, Nov. 16. Study the agrarian lifestyles and social structures of our ancestors and learn about traditional farming techniques and the making of hand tools.

For more information about Susquehanna Riverlands programs or to start receiving PPL's Environmental Currents newsletter, call 1-800-354-8383 or visit our Web site at www.pplweb.com/seic.

Many programs require advance registration and have limited space so call early.

Teaching Those Who Teach

Berwick Area Middle School teacher Gary Stair will join the PPL Susquehanna nuclear training staff for the 2003-2004 school year for the Sabbatical Teacher program.

The program, in its 19th year, provides local educators with the opportunity to learn about the industrial application of nuclear science and how the plant operates.

“School teachers must understand what industries need from future workforce members to remain viable, but getting an insider’s view is frequently difficult,” Stair said. “I am very pleased to have this opportunity to learn more about the occupations and opportunities found in the nuclear power industry.”

The program is open to science and mathematics teachers from schools with students who live in the 10-mile emergency planning zone around the plant. Schools that have participated in the program

include Berwick, Nanticoke, Northwest, Bloomsburg, Central Columbia, Crestwood, Wilkes-Barre Area-Coughlin and Hazleton.

During the yearlong sabbatical, the teacher spends about 50 percent of the time in training, including classroom, laboratory,

simulator, on-the-job and self-development opportunities. For the remainder of the time, the teacher functions as a member of the nuclear training group – teaching, proctoring training sessions, developing or revising training documents and researching to improve training material.

“We look forward to learning new techniques

and approaches to training from Gary. He will also provide us with insights about public perception

that we aren’t always aware of,” said Jim Lex, a supervisor in the nuclear learning center. “Having experienced work in the plant first hand, Gary will become a valuable resource to other science teachers in the Berwick school district for nuclear information and disseminating alternative teaching techniques.”



PPL Susquehanna training instructor Bill Height (r) shows Berwick teacher Gary Stair the protective clothing workers wear to minimize radiation dose.

Gary Stair

Experience: Educator for 23 years for the Berwick Area School District. Has taught sixth-grade life science for 13 years. Previously taught ninth-grade physical science for 10 years. Spent three years in the Army after graduating high school in 1972 as a medical corpsman.

Honors: Last year Gary celebrated his 200th win as head coach of the Berwick high school girls’ track and field team.

Education: Graduated from Bloomsburg University with a bachelor of science in secondary education science.

Personal: Born in Berwick, Pa. Married 18 years to Susan Herring Stair from Berwick. Daughter Katherine is a junior at Temple University and son Andrew is junior at Berwick High School.



A message from Herb Woodeshick, special assistant to the president for Susquehanna

Business-Education Partnership Teaches Teachers About Nuclear Energy

At PPL Susquehanna, we see it as our responsibility to provide a forum for the community to explore and discuss energy topics. For more than two decades, we’ve been doing this through business-education partnerships.

In two such programs, we teach those

who teach our children – PPL’s Nuclear Energy Seminar for Teachers (NEST) and the Sabbatical Teacher program.

Last month, 27 teachers – more than half from school districts within 10 miles of the Susquehanna plant – spent six days on the other side of a school desk.

Taught by professors from Bloomsburg University, Penn State University and King’s College, along with PPL and industry experts, the program gives educators objective, up-to-date information about the fundamentals of nuclear power, the benefits and risk trade-offs, and how the Susquehanna nuclear plant operates.

The NEST program, which more than 1,000 teachers have attended since it began in 1982, is one of the most definitive courses about nuclear energy for teachers in the nation.

Our Sabbatical Teacher program also began last month with Berwick Area Middle School teacher Gary Stair as this year’s participant (*see related story above*).

In its 19th year, this program provides local educators with an opportunity to learn new training and teaching methods, enhance their knowledge about nuclear science, become more familiar with Susquehanna plant operations and learn about future employment opportunities for their students.

These business-education partnerships provide teachers with information and experiences that enable them to address nuclear power issues with students, colleagues and policy makers, which makes everyone better able to make sound energy decisions today and in the future.



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Giving Back

Employees from PPL's Susquehanna and Montour power plants collected more than \$4,000 and were the top fundraiser for the Hazleton March of Dimes event in April.



Nearly 20 PPL volunteers teamed up with members of the Salem Township Fire Company to ready the grounds for the fire company's June carnival, the primary fundraising event for the volunteer organization. Employees donated their skills and time to replace and repair poles, paint and perform electrical work.




PPL Susquehanna employees donated 94 units of blood to the Berwick Red Cross during the Energy for Life blood drive held in June at the plant.



PPL Susquehanna employees raised more than \$3,000 for the Berwick Relay for Life fundraising event for the American Cancer Society.



PPL donated picnic tables to the Fishing Creek Watershed Association for use at Kocher Park.



We're listening

If you would like to know more about any of the subjects covered in this issue, or if you have questions or comments about the plant, please call us at the Susquehanna Special Office, 570-759-2281 or 570-542-2131.

Inside Susquehanna is published three times a year by PPL Susquehanna. For past issues, please visit our Web site at www.pplweb.com/seic.