

Bob Saccone Named Vice President of Nuclear Operations

Bob Saccone, PPL Susquehanna's new vice president of Nuclear Operations, joined the organization when the plant was in its infancy. Over the years, he has watched it grow from planning through construction, start-up and testing, and finally into operation.

This 31-year PPL veteran has been an integral part of the plant in many ways as his career progressed through various engineering positions and then into supervisory positions of increasing responsibility. Prior to being named vice president, Saccone had served as the general manager of nuclear engineering for three years. His extensive experience will help him guide PPL Susquehanna and its employees to continue to improve performance.

"Operating the plant safely and effectively is extremely important to our surrounding communities," said Saccone.



"All of our employees, many of whom have families and friends who live in the neighborhoods near the plant, share that viewpoint. It's the basis for every decision we make, and it's the reason for the quality of work we put into every task."

Career, Family, Community

- Earned a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering from Clarkson University in Potsdam, N.Y.
- Is a licensed professional engineer in Pennsylvania.
- Started at PPL in 1973 at Martins Creek power plant.
- Started at the Susquehanna plant in 1979.
- Married to Kathy for 30 years.
- Has three children – Tom, Laura and Pete.
- Lives in Drums, Pa.
- Is an avid runner and enjoys antique cars.

Question and Answer

with Bob Saccone

How has the plant's involvement with the community changed over the years?

From the very first days of construction, PPL has made every effort to be responsive to communities in the Berwick area. Over the years, I believe our employee volunteerism, corporate donations and safe, reliable operation have proven us to be a good corporate citizen.

What is Susquehanna's role in the community going forward?

Earning the public's trust is something we strive for every day. To do that, we will continue our commitment to providing honest, forthright communication about our successes and our challenges.

Local United Ways Benefit from PPL Susquehanna Generosity



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Representative Paul Kanjorski Tours Susquehanna

U.S. Rep. Paul Kanjorski (D-Luzerne County) and several members of his staff toured the Susquehanna nuclear power plant on Oct. 29 to review the plant's security measures.

During his visit, Kanjorski saw the various security upgrades undertaken at the plant and spoke to Susquehanna management about the procedures in place to protect employees and the public.

"The congressman is very knowledgeable and supportive of the Susquehanna plant and nuclear power in general," said Bryce Shriver, president-PPL Generation and chief nuclear officer. "We appreciate his continued interest and enjoyed the opportunity to discuss our latest security improvements at the plant."



Nuclear Regulatory Commission Confirms PPL Susquehanna Operated Safely

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has found that PPL Susquehanna operated "in a manner that preserved public health and safety" and fully met all of the commission's performance expectations for the first half of 2004.

The assessment is based on a review of plant performance and inspection results. All operating commercial power plants are evaluated twice a year under the NRC's reactor oversight process.

"We appreciate the thoroughness of the

NRC review and value this independent assessment of our performance," said Rocky Sgarro, manager of PPL Susquehanna's regulatory affairs. "We will use the feedback from this review, along with our own assessments, to continue to improve the operation of our plant."

As a result of the plant's performance, the NRC plans to conduct only standard inspections at Susquehanna through March 31, 2005.

Unit 1 Shut Down to Ensure Safety and Reliability

Operators shut down Unit 1 for five days in November to repair a hydrogen leak on the generator and to perform maintenance on several other pieces of equipment. Hydrogen is used to cool the generator.

"Fixing the leak ensured the safety of employees and will ensure the safe, reliable operation of the unit during peak winter heating months," said Bob Saccone, vice president-Nuclear Operations.

Unit 1 had run continuously for 211 days. Unit 2 operated at full power during the repairs and has run consecutively for 591 days as of Dec. 1, which is a station record.

Industry News: NRC Performing a Security Review of Documents Available Online

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission closed its online public library, ADAMS, in late October to conduct a security review of the documents and ensure the further removal of sensitive information.

The commission expects to partially restore ADAMS by the end of the year given the hundreds of thousands of documents that must be reviewed. The NRC posts about 200 official agency records to its Web site daily through ADAMS.



Emergency Responders Pass Regulatory Review

Susquehanna plant employees and thousands of local emergency volunteers successfully passed a federal review of emergency response during a drill on Oct. 26, proving that responders can protect the health and safety of the public and employees during an emergency.

The full-scale drill, held every two years, involved all Susquehanna emergency facilities, as well as state, county and municipal emergency agencies and local school districts.

Officials from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission observed Susquehanna employees while representatives of the Federal Emergency Management Agency observed volunteers at local municipal agencies.

“We always welcome the feedback that officials provide us and community volunteers at the completion of the drill,” said Jeff Grisewood, supervisor of Susquehanna’s Nuclear Emergency Planning group. “Their critique helps all



Bob Lengel (center), Emergency Planning coordinator, works with technical experts at the plant to develop the complex, confidential scenario used in the drill.

of us fine-tune our performance.”

Emergency responders from Susquehanna held another drill on Nov. 16.

The plant holds an emergency exercise every three months as part of its commitment to ensure public safety.

PPL Susquehanna’s emergency response network covers a 10-mile radius around the plant. Instructions for what to do in the unlikely event of a nuclear or non-nuclear emergency can be found in the blue pages of local telephone books.

Siren Tests

As part of its comprehensive emergency response plan, PPL provides and maintains a network of 112 sirens in the communities around the Susquehanna power plant for use by Luzerne and Columbia county officials in any emergency.

The sirens undergo monthly, silent, system-wide tests and an annual full-scale test.

Upcoming regional tests:

- Bloomsburg area: The weeks of Feb. 1 and May 10.
- Hazleton area: The week of March 1.
- Wilkes-Barre area: The weeks of Jan. 4 and April 12.



Labor-Management Recognized for Cooperation and Achievement

The Northeastern Pennsylvania Labor Management Council has recognized PPL Susquehanna and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1600 for their strong labor-management relationship at the plant.

The Council presents the award each year to labor and management in northeastern Pennsylvania that best exemplify cooperation, achievement and productivity.

“This acknowledgment pays tribute to the culture of teamwork that management and labor have worked hard to achieve at PPL Susquehanna,” said Bob Saccone, vice president-Nuclear Operations. “The cooperation among our entire workforce helps us operate the reactor safely and efficiently.”

Labor and management achievements at PPL Susquehanna over the past two years that substantiated the award include:

- Earning the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration’s Voluntary Protection Program’s “Star” status, which recognizes the plant’s outstanding health and safety programs.
- Completing the largest improvement project in the plant’s 20-year history by replacing the turbines on each unit.
- Setting records for the number of consecutive days each unit has operated.
- Maintaining defect-free reactor fuel performance since 1992, which earned a separate industry award.

Local United Ways Benefit from PPL Generosity

During its annual United Way campaign held this fall, PPL Susquehanna employees pledged more than \$220,000 to local United Ways.

PPL pledged an additional \$134,500 in corporate funds to the United Ways surrounding the plant, including Berwick, Columbia County, Wyoming Valley and Hazleton.

“The pledges demonstrate the commitment of our company and employees to the organizations that help make the future bright for ourselves and our

children,” said Steve Babczak, human resources manager for the plant who co-chaired this year’s site-wide campaign with Denise Puterbaugh, steno/clerk.

PPL holds an annual United Way campaign as part of its commitment to help communities offer programs that improve community health and provide emergency services, low-income assistance, youth development programs and services for people with special physical or mental challenges.



PPL Susquehanna workers prepared local scout camps for winter during a United Way Day of Caring event in October.



Citizens Serve in Communications Forum

PPL Susquehanna holds a quarterly meeting with citizens from each of the 27 municipalities that surround the Susquehanna plant.

“We value the open, two-way communication this forum provides us,” said Lou Ramos, community relations manager for PPL Susquehanna.

At the meeting, station managers discuss the status of the plant, major improvements or initiatives planned for the future, and topics of special public interest. Citizens are encouraged to ask questions and share their perceptions.

In special circumstances, the citizens committee may also tour parts of the plant or visit other nuclear power plants to learn more about a particular topic.

At the next scheduled meeting in December, committee members will have the opportunity to interact directly with Britt McKinney, Susquehanna’s new vice president of Nuclear Site Operations.



PPL provides year-round education and recreation at the Susquehanna Riverlands. Upcoming programs on the environment, energy and other topics include:

Winter Fitness, Jan. 30 – How to stay fit when ice, snow or cold keeps us indoors. This quarterly program is held in partnership with the Berwick Hospital Center.

Basic Boating Safety Class, Feb. 5 – The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission will offer this boating safety class covering equipment requirements, boat terminology, personal watercraft operation, “rules of the road,” weather and avoiding hypothermia.

Is There Hope for the Hemlock? Feb. 13 – Learn how tiny insects can damage our state’s forests. Andrew Duncan, district forester in the Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry, will discuss the current status of our state tree, the eastern hemlock, and what the future might hold for it.

American Indian Artifact Exhibit, Feb. 19 – The Pennsylvania Indian Artifact Collectors Association will exhibit tools, weapons, trade items and other artifacts used by indigenous peoples who lived in this area. Bring your own artifacts to be identified.

Developing a Personal Survival Kit, March 6 – David Eyster, an expert in outdoor survival skills, will assemble a kit to meet the needs of an emergency overnight stay in remote areas of Pennsylvania.

Spring Awakenings Walk, March 19 – Search for the first frogs, salamanders, migrating birds and wildflowers of spring at the Wetlands Nature Area and learn about the spring equinox.

For more information about Susquehanna Riverlands programs or to receive PPL’s Environmental Currents newsletter, call 1-570-542-2306 or visit our Web site at www.pplweb.com/seic.

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

Three PPL Susquehanna Employees Receive Red Cross Awards

Three PPL Susquehanna employees received national awards at an annual meeting of the Wyoming Valley Chapter of the American Red Cross.

Thomas Austin, a shift technical advisor in operations, and Kermit Mantz and Dan Dreisbach, both nuclear training instructors, received awards for saving the life of a co-worker.



The three men, along with a Red Cross trainer, responded to a call for help at Susquehanna's Learning Center last year.

A combination of CPR and shocks from an automated electronic defibrillator restored the pulse of Rich Clemson, a PPL Susquehanna instructor.

"I'm very thankful that I work for a company that cares enough about its employees to provide the training and equipment necessary for a safe working environment," said Rich. "My doctor said that quick, excellent care and a defibrillator were the reasons that I survived and was able to leave the hospital in seven days."



A message from Lou Ramos, Community Relations Manager for PPL Susquehanna.

Volunteers Improve Their Already-Golden Record

Every day, I am learning more about organizations and individuals whose needs and goals bring them

Giving Back

The Berwick YMCA/YWCA received more than \$1,000 from donations raised at the annual Pumpkin Walk/Run held at the Susquehanna Riverlands on Oct. 30. PPL Susquehanna employees and the Berwick Marathon Association organized the event.

Thirty-five PPL Susquehanna employees winterized local scout camps during the seventh annual United Way Day of Caring on Oct. 22. Volunteers took down tents, fixed wiring and plumbing, and improved roofs. The PPL Community of Volunteers partners with the Berwick Area United Way to support the Day of Caring.

Thirty-seven motorcyclists, including Susquehanna employees, retirees, family members and friends, participated in a plant-sponsored ride in October that raised \$1,035 for this year's United Way campaign.

PPL Susquehanna workers donated 142 pints of blood during blood drives held in August and October at the plant.

PPL employees from power plants in the Susquehanna region collected donations to provide struggling families and older adults with a Thanksgiving meal. The 30 meal recipients were identified through community organizations and Operation Help, PPL's program that assists low-income residents with their electricity bills.

PPL Susquehanna employees demonstrated their appreciation for American troops by sending care packages this holiday season to 11 PPL employees and their family members who are on active military duty.

Several PPL Susquehanna employees raised more than \$2800 at a golf tournament for the Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Association for research into Lou Gehrig's disease.

into contact with PPL Susquehanna during the ebb and flow of daily business.

Recently I was privileged to experience first-hand the expertise and dedication of the hundreds of volunteers who staff the county and municipal emergency management agencies surrounding our plant. These volunteers earned their highest marks ever from the federal observers who evaluated them during an emergency drill in October.

The lives of this diverse group of individuals—teachers, firefighters, secretaries, mechanics—periodically

flow together because of their desire to protect the public during an emergency—a goal strongly shared by Susquehanna employees as well.

In fact, PPL Susquehanna employees also volunteer at these agencies in a collaborative effort to improve the agencies' performance as well as our own.

I thank each and every Susquehanna and community volunteer for putting such a strong effort into preparing for any type of emergency. It's a great feeling knowing we are in such good hands.

Everyone in your home should review the emergency information in the blue pages of your telephone book.

Innovative Machine Adapted for Use at Susquehanna

Susquehanna operators are now using an innovative and potentially life-saving machine that will keep them out of harm's way when removing and installing circuit breakers, which are large on-off switches that protect the circuit from damage if overloaded.

The remote racking machine allows a trained person to remove or install breakers from as far away as 75 feet, greatly reducing the need for manual operation. While the vast majority of breaker replacements go smoothly, equipment failures can cause deadly explosions.

Susquehanna employees worked with Siemens, the machine's manufacturer, to modify the machine for the type of breaker used at Susquehanna.

"Because of the company's commitment to safety, it has purchased five units and ordered another six," said Ed Heller, unit supervisor.

Operators remove and replace about 60 breakers every year.



A remote racking machine safely removes and installs breakers.

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.

