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Nuclear Business Unit

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Gentlemen:

**1999 ANNUAL ENVIRONMENTAL OPERATING REPORT
SALEM GENERATING STATION, UNIT NOS. 1 AND 2
FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NOS. DPR-70 AND DPR-75
DOCKET NOS. 50-272 AND 50-311**

The attached 1999 Annual Environmental Operating Report is hereby submitted pursuant to Subsection 5.4.1 of the Environmental Protection Plan (Non-radiological) for Salem Generating Station, Unit Nos. 1 and 2. The Environmental Protection Plan is Appendix B to Facility Operation License DPR-70 and DPR-75 (Docket Nos. 50-272 and 50-311).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "G. Salamon/gme".

Gabor Salamon
Manager- Licensing

/sam
Attachment (1)

The power is in your hands.

Handwritten initials "JE25" in the bottom right corner of the page.

LR E 00 0174

C

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1999 ANNUAL ENVIRONMENTAL OPERATING REPORT
(NON-RADIOLOGICAL)
January 1 through December 31, 1999

SALEM GENERATION STATION
UNIT NOS. 1 AND 2
DOCKET NOS. 50-272 AND 50-311
OPERATING LICENSE NOS. DPR-70 AND DPR-75

PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY
P.O. BOX 236
HANCOCKS BRIDGE, NEW JERSEY 08038

APRIL 2000

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

This 1999 Annual Environmental Operating Report (AEOR) is submitted in accordance with Section 5.4.1 of the Salem Generating Station, Unit Nos. 1 and 2, Environmental Protection Plan (EPP), Non-radiological (Appendix B to Unit Nos. 1 and 2, Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-70 and DPR-75, Docket Nos. 50-272 and 50-311, respectively).

This is the 11th AEOR submitted under the EPP and covers Salem Unit No. 1 and Salem Unit No. 2 for the period from January 1 through December 31, 1999. During 1999, Salem Unit No. 1 and 2 generated a combined total of 15,958,559 megawatt-hours of net electrical energy.

As required by Subsection 5.4.1 of the EPP, we have included summaries and analyses of the results of all required environmental protection activities. This information is described in Section 2.0. Section 3.0 addresses the issues of EPP compliance. Changes to station design or operation and the review for potentially significant unreviewed environmental questions are addressed in Section 4.0. Unusual and/or important environmental events are discussed in Section 5.0.

2.0 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACTIVITIES

2.1 AQUATIC MONITORING ISSUES

Subsection 4.2.1 of the EPP references the Clean Water Act as a mechanism for protecting aquatic biota through water quality monitoring. The United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission (USNRC) relies on the State of New Jersey, acting under the authority of the Clean Water Act, to insure applicable requirements for aquatic monitoring are implemented. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) is the State's regulatory agency.

The NJDEP requires as part of the New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NJPDES) permit program that effluent monitoring be performed, with the results summarized and submitted monthly on Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) forms. The monitoring is intended to determine compliance with the effluent limitations of the station's NJPDES permit (No. NJ0005622). We have reviewed the DMRs corresponding to the 1999 AEOR reporting period and have determined that no significant deviations have occurred. We have observed no evidence of trends towards damage to the environment. Copies of monthly DMRs are routinely sent to USNRC's Document Control Desk and additional copies are available upon request.

PSE&G is implementing the September 1, 1994 NJPDES permit for Salem which requires, among other things, water intake screen modifications and wetland restoration and enhancement. Under the 1994 permit, which remains in effect until such time as a renewed permit is issued, PSE&G is continuing to restore wetlands and to conduct the requisite management and monitoring associated with the implementation of the Special Conditions of the permit. The existing permit remains in full force and effect based on the timely submission of the renewal application. On March 4, 1999, PSE&G filed a timely and comprehensive application for the renewal of Salem's NJPDES permit which included updated Section 316(a) and 316(b) demonstrations as well as a demonstration of the implementation of the Special Conditions of the 1994 NJPDES permit and their biological efficacy. The renewal application is contained in 36 volumes with 137 volumes of reference materials. A copy of the NJPDES permit renewal application was also submitted to the USNRC. As of this date the application is still under review by the New Jersey of Environmental Protection (NJDEP).

Additionally, the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) modified the docket that pertains to the NJPDES permit. The original docket had an expiration date of September 30, 2000. The modified docket allows for a six-month review period from the date the NJDEP issues the final NJPDES permit. The DRBC docket modification was approved in December 1999.

While the USNRC relies on the State of New Jersey and the NJDEP for protection of the water quality, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) maintains regulatory authority with respect to certain migratory threatened and endangered aquatic species. As required by Amendments 129 and 108 to the Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-70 and DPR-75 and the Section 7 Consultation, Biological Opinion, Salem Generating Station conducted inspections of the circulating water intake trash bars at least every two hours during the 1999 sea turtle season. In 1999, one shortnose sturgeon was recovered alive at the circulating water intake trash bars on March 30, 1999. The sturgeon was released alive down stream from the station. The appropriate notifications were performed to report the impingement of these species.

2.2 TERRESTRIAL ISSUES

PSE&G continues to monitor the osprey population in a joint effort with the NJDEP.

3.0 EPP COMPLIANCE STATUS

3.1 EPP NONCOMPLIANCES

Subsection 5.4.1 of the EPP requires a list of EPP noncompliances and the corrective actions taken to remedy them. No significant environmental impacts attributable to the operation of Salem Generating Station Unit Nos. 1 and 2 were observed during 1999.

3.2 REVIEW

Subsection 5.1 of the EPP for Salem Generating Station, Unit Nos. 1 and 2, requires that an independent review of compliance with the EPP be maintained and made available for inspection. The EPP was reviewed as part of the Self-Assessment Program in 1999.

4.0 CHANGES IN STATION DESIGN OR OPERATION

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 3.1 of the EPP for Salem Unit Nos. 1 and 2, station design changes and operation performance of tests or experiments, for the AEOR covered time period, were reviewed for potential environmental impact. None of the recommended changes posed a potential to significantly affect the environment, therefore, none involved an unreviewed environmental question or a change in the EPP.

5.0 NONROUTINE REPORTS

Subsection 5.4.1 of the EPP requires a list of all nonroutine reports (submitted in accordance with Subsection 5.4.2 of the EPP) be included as part of the Annual Environmental Operating Report.

Salem Generating Station experienced no unusual or important events that indicated or could have resulted in a "significant environmental impact" during the 1999 reporting period.