

NOV 28 2000



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United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

Gentlemen:

**LICENSING BASES CHANGES IN SUPPORT OF
SALEM OUTAGE IMPROVEMENTS
SALEM GENERATING STATION
UNIT NOS. 1 AND 2
DOCKET NOS. 50-272 AND 50-311**

On November 15, 2000, PSEG Nuclear LLC completed the eleventh refueling outage for Salem Unit No. 2 (2R11). In the months prior to 2R11, PSEG planned, developed and submitted several licensing bases changes, requiring NRC review, in order to support improvements in overall outage performance. These changes, described in the following paragraphs, resulted in operational changes that either: 1) improved nuclear or industrial safety; 2) substantially reduced overall outage radiological doses; 3) enabled the realization of labor and/or material-related cost savings; or 4) facilitated significant improvements in outage schedule flexibility. The specific changes that resulted in these outage-related benefits were:

- Technical Specification Amendment Nos. 229/210, which enabled the 24-hour diesel generator endurance run to be performed online;
- Technical Specification Amendment Nos. 232/213, which modified Mode 3, 4 and 5 Rod Position Indication System requirements;
- Adoption of IWE/IWL requirements, which improved containment liner inspection ISI requirements;
- Approval of ISI alternative length sizing criterion, which facilitates ISI piping examinations;
- Technical Specification Amendment Nos. 236/217, which improved Radiation Monitor R12 setpoint requirements;
- Approval of Code Case N597, which provides additional piping repair options; and
- Technical Specification Amendment Nos. 237/218, which enabled reactor power distribution measurement data to be taken in a more efficient manner.

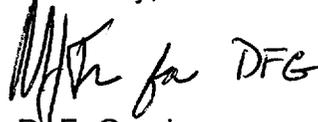
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In all of the above, efficient and timely NRC reviews in the months prior to 2R11 enabled PSEG to implement the changes in accordance with outage schedules and resulted in the aforementioned improvements in outage performance. In order to further the effective implementation of licensing basis changes that improve outage and operational performance at both Salem and Hope Creek, PSEG will continue to maintain an effective dialogue with the Salem and Hope Creek NRR Project Managers, such that: 1) outage-related licensing basis changes are identified in a timely manner; 2) outage-related needs are prioritized to effectively align PSEG and NRC resources; 3) licensing basis change requests and associated correspondence are submitted within a timeframe which accommodates NRC review schedules; and 4) NRC issues raised during reviews are appropriately and responsively addressed in any related follow-up correspondence.

Should you have any questions regarding the above, please contact Gabor Salamon at (856) 339-5296.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "DFG for DFG".

D. F. Garchow
Vice President – Technical Support

JPP

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