UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

March 4, 1991

Docket Nos. 50-272
and 50-311

Posted
Bases Change to DPR-70

Mr. Steven E. Miltenberger
Vice President and Chief Nuclear
Officer
Public Service Electric and Gas
Company
Post Office Box 236
Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey 08038

Dear Mr. Miltenberger:

SUBJECT: DELETION OF THE AXIAL FLUX DIFFERENCE MONITOR SECOND ALARM, SALEM NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2 (TAC NOS. 79405 AND 79406)

By letter dated January 3, 1991 and supplemented by letter dated February 7, 1991, Public Service Electric and Gas Company (PSE&G) submitted a proposed change to the Salem 1 and 2 Technical Specification Bases, Section 3/4.2.1, to remove the reference to a second axial flux difference (AFD) monitor alarm. This alarm is associated with the AFD time counters and was designed to initiate an alarm when the AFD accumulated time penalty exceeded 1 hour in any 24 hour time period.

The change is being requested because the AFD second alarm has not performed as designed. Upon receipt of the first AFD alarm, the operators monitor and record the time the AFD is outside the limits as specified in Technical Specification Surveillance 4.2.1.1. The Technical Specification requirements are met by manually tracking the accumulated time penalty, as detailed in the February 7, 1991 letter, without reliance on the AFD 24 hour alarm feature. The ACTION of Technical Specification 3.2.1 is then taken based on the manual tracking of the accumulated time penalty.

The staff offers no objection to your proposal to delete the AFD monitor second alarm and to manually track the accumulated time penalty. Enclosed is a copy

of the revised Bases page B 3/4 2-2 for Salem 1 and page B 3/4 2-2 for Salem 2. All staff activities related to TAC Nos. 79405 and 79406 are considered complete.

Sincerely,

James C. Stone

James C. Stone, Project Manager
Project Directorate I-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
Revised Technical Specification Pages

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

of the revised Bases page B 3/4 2-2 for Salem 1 and page B 3/4 2-2 for Salem 2. All staff activities related to TAC Nos. 79405 and 79406 are considered complete.

Sincerely,

/S/

James C. Stone, Project Manager
Project Directorate I-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
Revised Technical Specification Pages

cc w/enclosure:
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BASES

Although it is intended that the plant will be operated with the AXIAL FLUX DIFFERENCE within the +6, -9% target band about the target flux difference, during rapid plant THERMAL POWER reductions, control rod motion will cause the AFD to deviate outside of the target band at reduced THERMAL POWER levels. This deviation will not affect the xenon redistribution sufficiently to change the envelope of peaking factors which may be reached on a subsequent return to RATED THERMAL POWER (with the AFD within the target band) provided the time duration of the deviation is limited. Accordingly, a 1 hour penalty deviation limit cumulative during the previous 24 hours is provided for operation outside of the target band but within the limits of Figure 3.2-1 while at THERMAL POWER levels between 50% and 90% of RATED THERMAL POWER. For THERMAL POWER levels between 15% and 50% of rated THERMAL POWER, deviations of the AFD outside of the target band are less significant. The penalty of 2 hours actual time reflects this reduced significance.

Provisions for monitoring the AFD are derived from the plant nuclear instrumentation system through the AFD Monitor Alarm. A control room recorder continuously displays the auctioneered high flux difference and the target band limits as a function of power level. An alarm is received any time the auctioneered high flux difference exceeds the target band limits. Time outside the target band is graphically presented on the strip chart.

Figure B 3/4 2-1 shows a typical monthly target band.

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