

October 14, 1999

Mr. Harold W. Keiser
Chief Nuclear Officer & President -
Nuclear Business Unit
Public Service Electric & Gas
Company
Post Office Box 236
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

SUBJECT: SALEM NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNIT NOS. 1 AND 2 (TAC NOS.
MA0180 AND MA0181)

Dear Mr. Keiser:

Enclosed is a copy of the Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact related to your application for amendment dated November 14, 1997, as supplemented on August 25, 1999. The proposed amendments would revise the Technical Specifications (TSs) for the Salem Nuclear Generating Station, Unit Nos. 1 and 2, to make administrative and editorial changes to correct errors in the TSs that have either existed since initial issuance, or were introduced during subsequent changes. In addition, surveillance requirements are added that should have been incorporated within the TSs when the applicable amendment to the TSs was approved by the NRC.

The assessment is being forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Patrick D. Milano, Sr. Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate I
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-272 and 50-311
Enclosure: Environmental Assessment
cc w/encl: See next page

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**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

October 14, 1999

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick D. Milano", is written above the typed name.

Patrick D. Milano, Sr. Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate I
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-272 and 50-311

Enclosure: Environmental Assessment

cc w/encl: See next page

Salem Nuclear Generating Station,
Units 1 and 2

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY

DOCKET NOS. 50-272 AND 50-311

SALEM NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNIT NOS. 1 AND 2

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF

NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of amendments to Facility Operating License Nos. DRP-70 and DRP-75, issued to Public Service Electric and Gas Company (the licensee) for operation of the Salem Nuclear Generating Station, Unit Nos. 1 and 2, located in Salem County, New Jersey.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of the Proposed Action:

The proposed action would make administrative and editorial changes to correct errors in the Technical Specifications (TSs) that have either existed since initial issuance or were introduced during subsequent changes. In addition, surveillance requirements would be added that should have been incorporated within the TSs when the applicable amendment to the TSs was approved by the NRC.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application for amendment dated November 14, 1997, as supplemented by letter dated August 25, 1999.

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The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed action would correct administrative and editorial errors in the TSs. These changes can generally be described as:

- a. Revisions to the index to reflect correct page numbers of corresponding sections,
- b. Revisions to the section titles used in the TS sections, Bases, and Tables, as well as the correction and addition of subtitles to obtain standardization between both Salem units' TSs,
- c. Revision to the TS references that refer to other TS sections and tables to either provide the correct reference or to provide more specificity by reference to actual subsections,
- d. Spelling and grammatical corrections such as elimination of duplicate or extraneous words, proper pluralization, more standard abbreviations,
- e. Renumbering of TS Tables,
- f. Capitalize terms found in TS 1.0 when used in other TS sections,
- g. Add units of measure that were missing from acceptance criterion,
- h. Other administrative changes.

The proposed action would also revise various surveillance requirements for instrumentation such as including the correct operational mode applicability and adding channel functional tests and channel checks that should have been incorporated when prior amendments were issued.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed action and concludes that the administrative and editorial changes correct errors that currently exist in the TSs and add surveillance requirements that should have been included in prior amendments. The proposed action does not modify the facility or affect the manner in which the facility is operated. Further,

the addition of missing surveillance requirements would better demonstrate the operability of the affected plant components.

The proposed action will not increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types of any effluents that may be released off site, and there is no significant increase in occupational or public radiation exposure. Therefore, there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

With regard to potential non-radiological impacts, the proposed action does not involve any historic sites. It does not affect non-radiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, there are no significant non-radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action:

As an alternative to the proposed action, the staff considered denial of the proposed action (i.e., the "no-action" alternative). Denial of the application would result in no change in current environmental impacts. The environmental impacts of the proposed action and the alternative action are similar.

Alternative Use of Resources:

This action does not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement for the Salem Nuclear Generating Station dated April 1973.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

In accordance with its stated policy, on September 14, 1999, the staff consulted with the New Jersey State official, Mr. Dennis Zannoni, Chief of the Bureau of Nuclear Engineering,

regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comments with respect to the environmental impact of the proposed action. However, the State commented that certain proposed corrections were no longer relevant due to previous amendments.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

On the basis of the environmental assessment, the Commission concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, the Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed action.

For further details with respect to the proposed action, see the licensee's letter dated November 14, 1997, as supplemented by letter dated August 25, 1999, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, The Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room located at the Salem Free Public Library, 112 West Broadway, Salem, NJ 08079.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 14th day of October 1999.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick D. Milano".

Patrick D. Milano, Sr. Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate I
Division of Licensing Project Management
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