

April 20, 1990

Docket No. 50-311

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

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Dear Mr. Miltenberger:

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF CONSIDERATION OF ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT TO FACILITY  
OPERATING LICENSE AND PROPOSED NO SIGNIFICANT HAZARDS CONSIDERATION  
DETERMINATION AND OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING (TAC NO. 76415)

RE: SALEM GENERATING STATION, UNIT NO. 2

The Commission has requested the Office of the Federal Register to publish the enclosed "Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating License and Proposed No Significant Hazards Consideration Determination and Opportunity for Hearing." This notice relates to your application for amendment (LCR 90-9) dated April 4, 1990 and supplements dated April 12, 1990 and April 20, 1990, which would revise Salem Unit 2 Technical Specifications to increase the Main Steam Isolation Valve allowable closure time from 5 seconds to 8 seconds.

Sincerely,

/s/

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

Enclosure:  
Notice

cc w/enclosure:  
See next page

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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

April 20, 1990

Docket No. 50-311

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

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James C. Stone".

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

Enclosure:  
Notice

cc w/enclosure:  
See next page

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONPUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANYPHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANYDELMARVA POWER AND LIGHT COMPANYATLANTIC CITY ELECTRIC COMPANYDOCKET NO. 50-311NOTICE OF CONSIDERATION OF ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT TO  
FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE AND PROPOSED NO SIGNIFICANT HAZARDS  
CONSIDERATION DETERMINATION AND OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of amendment to Facility Operating License No. DPR-75 issued to Public Service Electric & Gas Company, Philadelphia Electric Company, Delmarva Power and Light Company and Atlantic City Electric Company (the licensees) for operation of the Salem Generating Station, Unit No. 2, located in Salem County, New Jersey.

The proposed amendment would revise Salem Unit 2 Technical Specifications to increase the Main Steam Isolation Valve (MSIV) allowable closure time. The proposal increases the MSIV allowable closure time from 5 seconds to 8 seconds until restart from the sixth refueling outage (currently scheduled for the fall, 1991). Subsequently, the applicable Engineered Safety Features response times are being revised to reflect the proposed increase in allowable MSIV stroke time. The amendment for Unit 1 is being processed under the emergency provisions of 10 CFR 50.91(a)(5).

Before issuance of the proposed license amendment, the Commission will have made findings required by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act) and the Commission's regulations.

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The Commission has made a proposed determination that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration. Under the Commission's regulations in 10 CFR 50.92, this means that operation of the facility in accordance with the proposed amendment would not (1) involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated; or (2) create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated; or (3) involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety.

The licensee has analyzed the proposed amendment to determine if a significant hazards consideration exists:

- 1) Does not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated.

An increase in the allowable main steam isolation valve (MSIV) mechanical stroke time, provided in Technical Specification 3/4.7.1.5, from five to eight seconds.

This increase affects the total steam line isolation ESF response time. Two ESF signals resulting in steam line isolation are modelled in Salem's licensing basis safety analyses; steam flow in two steam lines-high coincident with steam line pressure-low; and containment pressure-high high. Technical Specification Table 3.3-5 currently allows a total ESF response time (signal processing plus valve stroke time) of seven and eight seconds, respectively. This proposed change increases the ESF response time for both signals to ten seconds.

A third steam line isolation ESF signal, steam flow in two steam lines-high coincident with Tavg-low low, is not modelled in the safety analyses, but is provided as additional backup protection. The proposed increase in allowable MSIV stroke time increases this signal's response time from 10.75 seconds to 13.75. This increase however, does not affect the licensing basis safety analyses.

The Salem Generating Station safety analyses which rely upon MSIV closure have been evaluated to account for the increased steam line isolation response time. The events reevaluated are: steam line break core response; steam line break mass/energy releases for inside containment integrity analysis and Environmental Qualification of equipment inside containment; steam line break mass/energy releases

for outside containment equipment Environmental Qualification; feedline break; steam generator tube rupture (SGTR); and loss-of-coolant accident (LOCA).

The LOCA analyses do not mechanistically model closure of the MSIV's, but conservatively assume steam line isolation occurs instantaneously at reactor trip.

The other safety analyses listed above assume an overall Engineered Safety Features (ESF) response time for steam line isolation from the time that the isolation setpoint is reached until valve closure. The limiting cases of the accident analyses were revised using an increased MSIV response time. The revised safety analyses demonstrate that a steam line isolation response time of twelve seconds does not invalidate the existing licensing basis for Salem Generating Station. Therefore the proposed increase to a ten second response time does not result in an increase in consequences of an accident previously evaluated.

Technical Specification limits on MSIV closure time assure that the accident mitigating feature of the MSIV's remains within the limits defined by the plant safety analyses. Therefore, increases in closure time do not affect the probability of occurrence of any previously evaluated accidents.

- 2) Does not create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any previously evaluated.

The proposed changes do not introduce any new operational configurations to the Salem Generating Station or require any plant modifications. The emergency closure logic associated with the MSIV's is not altered by this change request.

Therefore, the proposed change does not create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any previously evaluated.

- 3) The limits established by the current licensing basis for Salem Generating Station assure that an adequate margin of safety exists. Reevaluation of the applicable safety analyses supports a twelve second steam line isolation ESF response time. The proposed change requests a ten second steam line isolation ESF response time for the ESF signals upon which the safety analyses rely. Therefore the proposed change remains bounded by the limits comprising the licensing basis of Salem Generating Station, and does not involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety.

The staff has reviewed the licensee's submittals and significant hazards consideration analysis and concurs with the licensee's determination that the proposed amendment does not involve significant hazards consideration. Therefore,

the staff proposes to determine that the proposed amendment involves no significant hazards consideration.

The Commission is seeking public comments on this proposed determination. Any comments received within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice will be considered in making any final determination. The Commission will not normally make a final determination unless it receives a request for a hearing.

Written comments may be submitted by mail to the Regulatory Publications Branch, Division of Freedom of Information and Publications Services, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555, and should cite the publication date and page number of this FEDERAL REGISTER notice. Written comments may also be delivered to Room P-223, Phillips Building, 7920 Norfolk Avenue, Bethesda, Maryland, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Copies of written comments received may be examined at the NRC Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. The filing of requests for hearing and petitions for leave to intervene is discussed below.

By May 29, 1990, the licensee may file a request for a hearing with respect to issuance of the amendment to the subject facility operating license and any person whose interest may be affected by this proceeding and who wishes to participate as a party in the proceeding must file a written petition for leave to intervene. Request for a hearing and petitions for leave to intervene shall be filed in accordance with the Commission's "Rules of Practice for Domestic Licensing Proceedings" in 10 CFR Part 2. Interested persons should consult a current copy of 10 CFR 2.714 which is available at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, N.W.,

Washington, D.C. 20555 and at the Local Public Document Room located at the Salem Free Public Library, 112 West Broadway, Salem, New Jersey 08079. If a request for a hearing or petition for leave to intervene is filed by the above date, the Commission or an Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, designated by the Commission or by the Chairman of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel, will rule on the request and/or petition and the Secretary or the designated Atomic Safety and Licensing Board will issue a notice of hearing or an appropriate order.

As required by 10 CFR §2.714, a petition for leave to intervene shall set forth with particularity the interest of the petitioner in the proceeding, and how that interest may be affected by the results of the proceeding. The petition should specifically explain the reasons why intervention should be permitted with particular reference to the following factors: (1) the nature of the petitioner's right under the Act to be made a party to the proceeding; (2) the nature and extent of the petitioner's property, financial, or other interest in the proceeding; and (3) the possible effect of any order which may be entered in the proceeding on the petitioner's interest. The petition should also identify the specific aspect(s) of the subject matter of the proceeding as to which petitioner wishes to intervene. Any person who has filed a petition for leave to intervene or who has been admitted as a party may amend the petition without requesting leave of the Board up to fifteen (15) days prior to the first prehearing conference scheduled in the proceeding, but such an amended petition must satisfy the specificity requirements described above.

Not later than fifteen (15) days prior to the first prehearing conference scheduled in the proceeding, a petitioner shall file a supplement to the petition to intervene which must include a list of the contentions which are sought to be litigated in the matter. Each contention must consist of a specific statement of the issue of law or fact to be raised or controverted. In addition, the petitioner shall provide a brief explanation of the bases of the contention and a concise statement of the alleged facts or expert opinion which support the contention and on which the petitioner intends to rely in proving the contention at the hearing. The petitioner must also provide references to those specific sources and documents of which the petitioner is aware and on which the petitioner intends to rely to establish those facts or expert opinion. Petitioner must provide sufficient information to show that a genuine dispute exists with the applicant on a material issue of law or fact. Contentions shall be limited to matters within the scope of the amendment under consideration. The contention must be one which, if proven, would entitle the petitioner to relief. A petitioner who fails to file such a supplement which satisfies these requirements with respect to at least one contention will not be permitted to participate as a party.

Those permitted to intervene become parties to the proceeding, subject to any limitations in the order granting leave to intervene, and have the opportunity to participate fully in the conduct of the hearing, including the opportunity to present evidence and cross-examine witnesses.

If a hearing is requested, the Commission will make a final determination on the issue of no significant hazards consideration. The final determination will serve to decide when the hearing is held.

If the final determination is that the request for amendment involves no significant hazards consideration, the Commission may issue the amendment and make it effective, notwithstanding the request for a hearing. Any hearing held would take place after issuance of the amendment.

If the final determination is that the amendment involves a significant hazards consideration, any hearing held would take place before the issuance of any amendment.

Normally, the Commission will not issue the amendment until the expiration of the 30-day notice period. However, should circumstances change during the notice period such that failure to act in a timely way would result, for example, in derating or shutdown of the facility, the Commission may issue the license amendment before the expiration of the 30-day notice period, provided that its final determination is that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration. The final determination will consider all public and State comments received. Should the Commission take this action, it will publish a notice of issuance and provide for opportunity for a hearing after issuance. The Commission expects that the need to take this action will occur very infrequently.

A request for a hearing or a petition for leave to intervene must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555, Attention: Docketing and Service Branch, or may be delivered to the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., by the above date. Where petitions are filed during the last ten (10) days of the notice period, it is requested that the petitioner promptly so inform the Commission by a toll-free telephone call to Western Union at 1-(800) 325-6000 (in Missouri 1-(800) 342-6700).

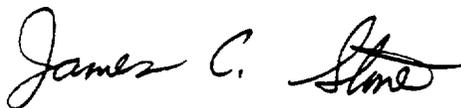
The Western Union operator should be given Datagram Identification Number 3737 and the following message addressed to Walter R. Butler, Director, Project Directorate I-2, Division of Reactor Projects I/II: (petitioner's name and telephone number), (date petition was mailed), (plant name), and (publication date and page number of this FEDERAL REGISTER notice). A copy of the petition should also be sent to the Office of the General Counsel, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555, and to Conner and Wetterhahn, 1747 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006, attorney for the licensee.

Nontimely filings of petitions for leave to intervene, amended petitions, supplemental petitions and/or requests for hearing will not be entertained absent a determination by the Commission, the presiding officer or the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board that the petition and/or request should be granted based upon a balancing of factors specified in 10 CFR 2.714(a)(1)(i)-(v) and 2.714(d).

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated April 4, 1990 and supplements dated April 12, 1990 and April 20, 1990, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, N.W, Washington, D.C. 20555, and at the Salem Free Public Library, 112 West Broadway, Salem, New Jersey 08079.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 20th day of April 1990.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



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

Mr. Steven E. Miltenberger  
Public Service Electric & Gas Company

Salem Nuclear Generating Station

cc:

Mark J. Wetterhahn, Esquire  
Conner and Wetterhahn  
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Washington, DC 20006

Richard B. McGlynn, Commission  
Department of Public Utilities  
State of New Jersey  
101 Commerce Street  
Newark, NJ 07102

Richard Fryling, Jr., Esquire  
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Regional Administrator, Region I  
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General Manager - Salem Operations  
Salem Generating Station  
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Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

Lower Alloways Creek Township  
c/o Mary O. Henderson, Clerk  
Municipal Building, P.O. Box 157  
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

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Mr. Thomas P. Johnson, Senior Resident  
Inspector  
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New Jersey Department of Environmental  
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Delmarva Power & Light Company  
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Wilmington, DE 19899

Mr. J. T. Robb, Director  
Joint Owners Affairs  
Philadelphia Electric Company  
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Wayne, PA 19087

Public Service Commission of Maryland  
Engineering Division  
ATTN: Chief Engineer  
231 E. Baltimore Street  
Baltimore, MD 21202-3486