

June 10, 2002

MEMORANDUM TO: James W. Clifford, Chief, Section 2  
Project Directorate I  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Robert J. Fretz, Project Manager, Section 2 /RA/  
Project Directorate I  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: SALEM NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNIT NOS. 1 AND 2,  
FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION, ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED IN AN  
UPCOMING CONFERENCE CALL (TAC NOS. MB5052 AND MB5053)

The attached information was transmitted by facsimile on June 3, 2002, to PSEG Nuclear LLC (PSEG or the licensee). This information was transmitted to facilitate an upcoming conference call in order to clarify the licensee's submittal dated May 1, 2002, which requested an exemption from Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, Appendix R, requirements for Fire Areas 1(2)-FA-AB-64B, 1(2)-FA-AB-84B, and 1(2)-FA-AB-84C at the Salem Nuclear Generating Station, Unit Nos. 1 and 2.

Docket Nos. 50-272 and 50-311

Attachment: Issues for Discussion in Upcoming Telephone Conference

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REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

EXEMPTION REQUEST FOR FIRE AREAS

1(2)-FA-AB-64B, 1(2)-FA-AB-84B, AND 1(2)-FA-AB-84C

SALEM NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNIT NOS. 1 AND 2

By letter dated May 1, 2002, PSEG Nuclear LLC (PSEG) submitted requests for exemption from Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, Appendix R, requirements for Fire Areas 1(2)-FA-AB-64B, 1(2)-FA-AB-84B, and 1(2)-FA-AB-84C at the Salem Nuclear Generating Station, Unit Nos. 1 and 2 (Salem). The exemption requests were submitted in response to PSEG's resolution of Electrical Raceway Fire Barrier System issues at Salem. The NRC staff has completed its initial acceptance review of the May 1, 2002, exemption request, and has determined that additional information is necessary in order to conduct a review of PSEG's request.

- (1) PSEG needs to submit a request for exemption, with the supporting technical justification, from the technical requirements of Section III.G.3 of Appendix R relating to the lack of complete area-wide automatic fire detection in fire areas 1(2)-FA-AB-64B and 1(2)-FA-AB-84. The provision in GL 86-10, cited in the licensee's submittal, that allows licensees to perform an engineering evaluation to assess the acceptability of partial detection is limited in applicability to Section III.G.2 fire areas only, and is not applicable to Section III.G.3 fire areas.

In order for the NRC staff to evaluate whether application of the regulation in the particular circumstances would not serve the underlying purpose of the rule or is not necessary to achieve the underlying purpose of the rule according to 10 CFR 50.12(a)(2)(ii), PSEG will need to provide the following information:

- (2) For each of the six fire areas identified in the exemption request, the licensee needs to provide the quantities, types and location of the in-situ combustibles present in each area.
- (3) Concerning the manual operator actions required to achieve and maintain hot standby in each of the subject fire areas, the licensee needs to provide: (1) a description of the manual actions; (2) the number of operations personnel required for the manual actions; (3) the location(s) where the actions are performed; and (4) a time line for the completion of each of the manual actions.
- (4) Provide the locations and types of fire protection systems or features provided (if any) for the cables or equipment associated with reactor coolant inventory control, decay heat removal, process monitoring and support functions identified in the six fire areas that were not included in the submittal.

Attachment