

January 09, 2003

Mr. Harold W. Keiser  
Chief Nuclear Officer & President  
PSEG Nuclear LLC - X04  
Post Office Box 236  
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08036

SUBJECT: SALEM NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION STATION, UNIT NOS. 1 AND 2 -  
REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION FROM 10 CFR 55.59 (TAC NOS. MB6609 AND  
MB6610)

Dear Mr. Keiser:

By letter dated October 28, 2002, PSEG Nuclear LLC requested an exemption from the 2-year schedule requirement of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Section 55.59. The requested exemption would allow the completion date for the licensed operator requalification training program at the Salem Nuclear Generating Station, Unit Nos. 1 and 2, to be extended from October 3, 2002, to January 9, 2003. This is a request for exemption under 10 CFR 55.11 from the requirements of 10 CFR 55.59(c).

The Commission has granted the requested exemption, pursuant to 10 CFR 55.11. A copy of the exemption is enclosed and is being forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

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

Docket Nos. 50-272, 50-311

Enclosure: Exemption

cc w/encl: See next page

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JClifford	LCox	RFretz	DMuller
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ADAMS Accession Number: ML030090291

\*See previous concurrence

OFFICE	PDI-2/PM	PDI-2/LA	IOHS/SC*	OGC	PDI-2/SC	PDI/D	DIPM/D
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DATE	12/19/02	12/16/02, 12/19/02	12/19/02	12/30/02	1/8/03	1/8/03	1/9/03

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

PSEG Nuclear LLC

cc:

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Salem Nuclear Generating Station,  
Unit Nos. 1 and 2

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
PSEG NUCLEAR LLC  
SALEM NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNIT NOS. 1 AND 2  
DOCKET NOS. 50-272 AND 50-311  
EXEMPTION

1.0 BACKGROUND

PSEG Nuclear LLC (PSEG or the licensee) is the holder of Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-70 and DPR-75 which authorize operation of the Salem Nuclear Generating Station, Unit Nos. 1 and 2 (Salem), respectively. The licenses provide, among other things, that the Salem Nuclear Generating Station, Unit Nos. 1 and 2 are subject to all rules, regulations, and orders of the Commission now or hereafter in effect.

The facility consists of two pressurized-water reactors located in Salem County, New Jersey.

2.0 PURPOSE

Pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Section 55.59(c), a facility's licensed operator requalification program must be conducted for a continuous period not to exceed 2 years and upon conclusion must be promptly followed, pursuant to a continuous schedule, by successive requalification programs.

The *Code of Federal Regulations* at 10 CFR 55.11 states that "The Commission may, upon application by an interested person, or upon its own initiative, grant such exemptions from the requirements of the regulations in this part as it determines are authorized by law and will not endanger life or property and are otherwise in the public interest."

3.0 DISCUSSION

By letter dated October 28, 2002, PSEG requested a change to the Salem operator licensing requalification training program completion date. This request constitutes a request for exemption under 10 CFR 55.11 from schedule requirements of 10 CFR 55.59(c). The schedule exemption requested would extend the period for completing the Salem requalification training program from October 3, 2002, to January 9, 2003. The next requalification period would begin on January 14, 2003, and end on December 31, 2004, with subsequent requalification periods remaining on a January to December schedule.

The schedule change will allow the facility licensee to align the Salem requalification program with the requalification program of their Hope Creek Generating Station. The affected licensed operators will continue to demonstrate and possess the required levels of knowledge, skills, and abilities needed to safely operate the plant. The limited 3-month delay in completion of the requalification program will include a Special Training Segment for licensed operators. Thus, there is a negligible effect on operator qualification.

#### 4.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission has determined that pursuant to 10 CFR 55.11, granting an exemption to the facility licensee from the schedule requirements in 10 CFR 55.59(c), by allowing Salem a one-time extension in the allowed time for completing the licensed operator requalification training program, is authorized by law and will not endanger life or property and is otherwise in the public interest.

Therefore, the Commission hereby grants PSEG Nuclear LLC an exemption on a one-time only basis from the schedule requirements of 10 CFR 55.59(c), to allow the completion date for the licensed operator requalification training program at Salem to be extended from October 3, 2002, to January 9, 2003. The next requalification training program will commence on January 14, 2003, and be completed by December 31, 2004, with subsequent 2-year requalification programs to continue on a January to December schedule.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.32, the Commission has determined that the granting of this exemption will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment (68 FR 1213).

This exemption is effective upon issuance, and expires on January 9, 2003.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 9th day of January 2003.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

*/RA/*

Bruce A. Boger, Director  
Division of Inspection Program Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation