September 13, 2005

Mr. William Levis
Senior Vice President & Chief Nuclear Officer
PSEG Nuclear LLC-X04
Post Office Box 236
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

SUBJECT: SALEM NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNIT NO. 1, EVALUATION OF STEAM GENERATOR TUBE INSPECTION RESULTS FOR 2004 (TAC NOS. MC3135 AND MC7388)

Dear Mr. Levis:

By letter dated May 3, 2004, PSEG Nuclear LLC (PSEG), the licensee for the Salem Nuclear Generating Station (Salem), submitted the 15-day steam generator (SG) tube plugging report in accordance with Technical Specification (TS) Section 4.4.5.5.a. By letter dated February 25, 2005, PSEG submitted the 12-month SG tube inspection report in accordance with TS Section 6.9.1.5.b. These reports summarize the SG tube inspections performed at Salem, Unit No. 1, during the spring 2004 refueling outage.

As discussed in the enclosed evaluation, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has reviewed these reports and concludes that PSEG has provided the information required by the Salem TSs and that no additional follow-up is required at this time. This completes the NRC staff's efforts under TAC Nos. MC3135 and MC7388.

If you have any question regarding this matter, please contact me at (301) 415-1321.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Stewart N. Bailey, Sr. Project Manager,
Section 2
Project Directorate I
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-272

Enclosure: As stated

cc w/encl: See next page

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EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

STEAM GENERATOR TUBE INSPECTION REPORTS FOR THE 2004 OUTAGE

PSEG NUCLEAR LLC

SALEM NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNIT NO. 1

DOCKET NO. 50-272

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated May 3, 2004 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML041320507), PSEG Nuclear LLC (PSEG), the licensee for the Salem Nuclear Generating Station (Salem), submitted the 15-day steam generator (SG) tube plugging report in accordance with Technical Specification (TS) Section 4.4.5.5.a. By letter dated February 25, 2005 (ML050670560), PSEG submitted the 12-month SG tube inspection report in accordance with TS Section 6.9.1.5.b. These reports summarize the SG tube inspections performed at Salem, Unit No. 1, during the spring 2004 refueling outage.

2.0 BACKGROUND

Salem, Unit No. 1 has Westinghouse Model F SGs. All four SGs were inspected during the spring 2004 refueling outage. The Westinghouse Model F SG consists of approximately 5626 tubes which have an outside diameter of 0.688 inches and a wall thickness of 0.040 inches. The tubes have been hydraulically expanded into the tubesheet and are supported by several 0.75-inch 405 stainless steel support plates which contain broached quatrefoil tube holes through which the tubes pass. The Salem, Unit No. 1 SGs began operation in 1997 and have thermally-treated Inconel 600 tubing.

3.0 TECHNICAL EVALUATION

The licensee provided the scope, extent, methods, and results of Salem, Unit No. 1 SG tube inspections in the documents referenced above. In addition, the licensee described corrective actions (i.e., tube plugging or repair) taken in response to the inspection findings.

Enclosure

4.0 CONCLUSION

Based on a review of the information provided, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff concludes that the licensee provided the information required by the Salem, Unit No. 1, TSs. In addition, the staff concludes that there are no technical issues that warrant follow-up action at this time since the inspections appear to be consistent with the objective of detecting potential tube degradation and the inspection results appear to be consistent with industry operating experience at similarly designed and operated units.

Principal Contributor: L. Miller

Date: September 13, 2005