

January 12, 2006

LICENSEE: PSEG NUCLEAR, LLC.

FACILITY: SALEM NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNIT NOS. 1 AND 2

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF DECEMBER 13, 2005, CATEGORY 1 MEETING WITH PSEG NUCLEAR LLC, REGARDING SALEM NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION FIRE PROTECTION PROGRAM

On December 13, 2005, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC Salem Nuclear Generating Station, Unit Nos. 1 and 2 (Salem). The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the status of the Salem Fire Protection Program (FPP) and the licensee's plans to return the FPP to conformance with its licensing basis. Specific discussion areas included Salem's exemptions from Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, Part 50, Appendix R, the causes of reduced carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) concentration from the fire suppression system in the 4160-volt switchgear rooms, 460-volt switchgear rooms, and lower electrical penetration area rooms, and the effects of CO<sub>2</sub> migration to other areas of the plant.

As background, the CO<sub>2</sub> fire suppression system does not provide the design CO<sub>2</sub> concentration or hold time for the electrical switchgear rooms or lower electrical penetration areas. The Salem design is based on National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Code NFPA-12. Further, the licensee identified that CO<sub>2</sub> may migrate to other plant areas that must remain accessible to operators. The licensee requested a license amendment that would lower the required concentration and hold time, but withdrew the request when the NRC staff expressed concerns that PSEG had not adequately justified the lower concentration, had not discussed its effect on 10 CFR, Part 50 Appendix R exemptions, and had not addressed CO<sub>2</sub> migration. In a letter dated September 29, 2005, the staff requested a meeting to discuss the above issues and the licensee's plans to return the system to conformance with its licensing basis.

During the meeting, the licensee discussed the causes of the deficiency, the history of changes to their FPP (including plant modifications to provide additional methods to safely shut down the plant), steps they have taken to decrease the leakage, and thereby increase the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration, for the above rooms, the defense in depth that still exists in the above rooms, and the compensatory measures that are in place to account for the deficiency. The licensee stated that they believe the lower concentration and hold time are appropriate, based on NFPA-2001 methodology, and that they withdrew the amendment request primarily to address the issue of CO<sub>2</sub> migration. The licensee stressed that permanently resolving this issue is one of the top equipment priorities at Salem. The licensee is evaluating multiple solution paths and plans to select a path in March of 2006.

Members of the public were not in attendance.

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A list of meeting attendees is enclosed (Enclosure 1). A copy of the licensee's presentation is provided in Enclosure 2.

Please direct any inquiries to me at 301-415-1321, or [snb@nrc.gov](mailto:snb@nrc.gov).

***/RA/***

Stewart N. Bailey, Senior Project Manager  
Plant Licensing Branch 1-2  
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-272 and 50-311

Enclosures: As stated

cc w/encls: See next page

A list of meeting attendees is enclosed (Enclosure 1). A copy of the licensee's presentation is provided in Enclosure 2.

Please direct any inquiries to me at 301-415-1321, or snb@nrc.gov.

**/RA/**

Stewart N. Bailey, Senior Project Manager  
Plant Licensing Branch 1-2  
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DISTRIBUTION

PUBLIC	LPL1-2 Reading	CHolden	DRoberts	SBailey
CRaynor	SWeerakody	PQuals	RWolfgang	
OPA	RJasinski	GMatakas, RI	SLee, EDO RI	DScrenci, RI
TMensah	OGC	ACRS	ECobey, RI	

Meeting Summary: ML060060474 Package: ML060060503

Slides:

OFFICE	LPLI-2/PM	LPLI1-2/LA	LPLI-2/BC
NAME	SBailey	CRaynor	DRoberts
DATE	1/10/06	1/10/06	1/12/06

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

ATTENDEE LIST

DECEMBER 13, 2005, MEETING ON FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEM

SALEM NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNIT NOS. 1 AND 2

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>
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D. Roberts	NRC/NRR/ADRO/DORL/LPLI-2
S. Weerakody	NRC/NRR/ADRA/DRA/AFP
P. Qualls	NRC/NRR/ADRA/DRA/AFP
R. Wolfgang	NRC/NRR/ADRA/DRA/AFP
D. Shumaker	PSEG
J. Wearne	PSEG
A. T. Roberts	PSEG
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Salem Nuclear Generating Station, Unit Nos. 1 and 2

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