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To: OPA@nrc.gov
Date: 3/11/04 11:04AM
Subject: NRC To Discuss Work Environment at Salem/Hope Creek
Place: OPA@nrc.gov

For release in about one hour.

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March 11, 2004
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**NRC, PSEG TO DISCUSS WORK ENVIRONMENT
AT SALEM, HOPE CREEK NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS**

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will meet with Public Service Enterprise Group (PSEG) managers on March 18 to discuss the environment for raising and addressing safety issues at the Salem and Hope Creek nuclear power plants. PSEG Nuclear operates the plants, which are located in Hancocks Bridge, N.J.

The meeting will begin at 2 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Select Bridgeport, which is located off Exit 10 of Interstate 295 in Swedesboro, N.J. It will be open to the public for observation and there will be an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions of NRC staff after the business portion of the meeting is concluded but before the session is adjourned.

On January 28, the NRC sent a letter to PSEG regarding the plants' safety conscious work environment, which refers to an openness to safety concerns and effectiveness in dealing with them. In order to better assess the state of the plants' work environment, the letter asked PSEG to conduct its own in-depth assessment, with a plan of action requested within 30 days.

PSEG provided a response on February 27, noting it had formed an Independent Assessment Team, whose fieldwork is expected to be completed by mid-April.

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