



**NEW JERSEY
ENVIRONMENTAL FEDERATION**

A Chapter of CLEAN WATER ACTION

11/2/09

223 Park Avenue
Marlton, NJ 08053

To: Hon Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko, Chairman
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington D.C. 20555-0001
Dear Chairman Jaczko:

The NJ Environmental Federation, NJ's chapter of Clean Water Action, respectfully requests a 60-day extension in which to file its Request for a Hearing/Petition for Leave to Intervene in response to the relicensing application filed by PSEG for the Salem and Hope Creek nuclear power plants (Salem 1 and 2, Hope Creek) located in Lower Alloways Township, New Jersey. (Docket No. 50-354; NRC-2009-0391] Docket Nos. 50-272 and 50-311; NRC-2009-0390)

The NJ Environmental Federation, as part of the UNPLUG SALEM campaign, has been working diligently to prepare its responses even before the NRC published a notice in the Federal Register on October 23rd, 2009, that PSEG's relicensing application for Salem/Hope Creek was accepted for review, thereby commencing the NRC's 60-day time period within which to file these papers.

The UNPLUG Salem Campaign is a network of organizations that watchdog PSEG's three nuclear plants. UNPLUG has taken the lead to coordinate with other organizations to submit contentions as required by the NRC's regulations. This coordination requires many meetings and a great deal of consultation and cooperation, all of which takes a significant amount of time.

Additional time is also needed because of the structural differences between Salem Units 1 and 2, which are PWR's and Hope Creek, which is a BWR. Also, as citizen groups, we do not have the staff and resources needed to review the extensive and complex application for relicensing in only 60 days. The sheer size of PSEG's relicensing application requires more than 60 days to evaluate.

In addition, the process to retain consultants and experts to provide necessary support and expertise is very difficult to accomplish within 60 days. We began the process early for some of these individuals, but as we have developed our contentions over the last few weeks, we have seen the need to retain additional experts and consultants. This process will not likely be concluded by the December 22nd, 2009 deadline established by the NRC.

A 60-day extension would enable the NJ Environmental Federation to participate more fully and to more meaningfully contribute to the relicensing proceeding. For all of these reasons, we respectfully request that the NRC grant a 60-day extension until February 22nd, 2010.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Nogaki
Vice Chair
NJ Environmental Federation