

November 24, 2009

Mr. Timothy A. Slavin, State Historic  
Preservation Officer  
Delaware Division of Historical and  
Cultural Affairs  
21 The Green  
Dover, DE 19901

SUBJECT: SALEM AND HOPE CREEK LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATIONS REVIEW

Dear Mr. Slavin:

The United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is seeking input for its environmental review of applications from PSEG Nuclear, LLC (PSEG Nuclear) for the renewal of the operating licenses for the Salem Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1 and 2 (SALEM), and Hope Creek Generating Station, Unit 1 (HCGS), located 18 miles south of Wilmington, Delaware. As described below, the NRC process includes an opportunity for public and inter-governmental participation in the environmental review. We want to ensure that you are aware of our efforts and, pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 51.28(a) (10 CFR 51.28(a)), the NRC invites you to provide input relating to the NRC's environmental review of these applications. In addition, as outlined in 36 CFR 800.8, the NRC plans to coordinate compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 through the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

Under NRC regulations, the original operating license for a nuclear power plant is issued for up to 40 years. The license may be renewed for up to an additional 20 years if NRC requirements are met. The current operating licenses for SALEM, Units 1 and 2, will expire on August 13, 2016 and April 18, 2020, respectively. The current operating license for HCGS, Unit 1, will expire on April 11, 2026. The license renewal applications for SALEM and HCGS, submitted by PSEG Nuclear, were dated August 18, 2009. Notices of acceptance for docketing of the applications for renewal of the facilities' operating licenses were published in the *Federal Register* on October 23, 2009 (SALEM: 74 FR 54854 and HCGS: 74 FR 54856).

The NRC is gathering information for SALEM and HCGS site-specific supplements to its Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants, NUREG-1437. The supplement will contain the results of the review of the environmental impacts on the area surrounding the SALEM and HCGS sites that are related to terrestrial

ecology, aquatic ecology, hydrology, cultural resources, and socioeconomic issues (among others) and will contain a recommendation regarding the environmental acceptability of the license renewal action. Enclosed for your information, are the SALEM and HCGS site description, site boundary map, 6-mile vicinity, and transmission line map.

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The license renewal application is publicly available at the NRC Public Document Room (PDR), located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852, or from the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). The ADAMS Public Electronic Reading Room is accessible at <http://adamswebsearch.nrc.gov/dologin.htm>. The accession numbers for the Environmental Reports (ERs) are ML092400532 for SALEM and ML092430484 for HCGS. Persons who do not have access to ADAMS, or who encounter problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, should contact the NRC's PDR reference staff by telephone at 1-800-397-4209, or 301-415-4737, or by e-mail at [pdr.resource@nrc.gov](mailto:pdr.resource@nrc.gov).

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The GEIS assesses the scope and impact of environmental effects that are associated with license renewal at any nuclear power plant site, and can also be found on the NRC's website or at the NRC's PDR.

Please submit any comments that you may have to the Chief, Rulemaking and Directives Branch, Division of Administrative Services, Office of Administration, Mailstop TWB 5B01M, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001. Comments may be submitted to the NRC by e-mail at [SalemEIS@nrc.gov](mailto:SalemEIS@nrc.gov) and [HopeCreekEIS@nrc.gov](mailto:HopeCreekEIS@nrc.gov) by December 22, 2009. At the conclusion of the scoping process, the NRC staff will prepare a summary of the significant issues identified and the conclusions reached, and mail a copy to you.

T. Slavin

- 3 -

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Charles Eccleston, Project Manager at 301-415-8537 or by e-mail at [Charles.Eccleston@nrc.gov](mailto:Charles.Eccleston@nrc.gov), or Donnie Ashley, Project Manager at 301-415-3191 or by e-mail at [Donnie.Ashley@nrc.gov](mailto:Donnie.Ashley@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

***/RA Donnie Ashley for/***

Bo M. Pham, Chief  
Projects Branch 1  
Division of License Renewal  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-272, 50-311, and 50-354

Enclosures:  
As stated

cc w/encls: See next page

November 24, 2009

Mr. J. Rodney Little, Director and State  
Historic Preservation Officer  
Maryland Historical Trust  
100 Community Place, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023

SUBJECT: SALEM AND HOPE CREEK LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATIONS REVIEW

Dear Mr. Little:

The United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is seeking input for its environmental review of applications from PSEG Nuclear, LLC (PSEG Nuclear) for the renewal of the operating licenses for the Salem Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1 and 2 (SALEM), and Hope Creek Generating Station, Unit 1 (HCGS), located 18 miles south of Wilmington, Delaware. As described below, the NRC process includes an opportunity for public and inter-governmental participation in the environmental review. We want to ensure that you are aware of our efforts and, pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 51.28(a) (10 CFR 51.28(a)), the NRC invites you to provide input relating to the NRC's environmental review of these applications. In addition, as outlined in 36 CFR 800.8, the NRC plans to coordinate compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 through the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

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J. Little

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Sincerely,

***/RA Donnie Ashley for/***

Bo M. Pham, Chief  
Projects Branch 1  
Division of License Renewal  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-272, 50-311, and 50-354

Enclosures:  
As stated

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November 24, 2009

Mr. Daniel Saunders, Deputy State  
Historic Preservation Officer  
New Jersey Historic Preservation  
Office  
401 East State Street  
P.O. Box 304  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0404

SUBJECT: SALEM AND HOPE CREEK LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATIONS REVIEW

Dear Mr. Saunders:

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Sincerely,

***/RA Donnie Ashley for/***

Bo M. Pham, Chief  
Projects Branch 1  
Division of License Renewal  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-272, 50-311, and 50-354

Enclosures:  
As stated

cc w/encls: See next page

November 24, 2009

Ms. Jean Cutler, Deputy State  
Historic Preservation Officer  
Pennsylvania Bureau for Historic  
Preservation  
Commonwealth Keystone Building  
2nd Floor  
400 North Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0093

SUBJECT: SALEM AND HOPE CREEK LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATIONS REVIEW

Dear Mr. Cutler:

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***/RA Donnie Ashley for/***

Bo M. Pham, Chief  
Projects Branch 1  
Division of License Renewal  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-272, 50-311, and 50-354

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Projects Branch 1  
Division of License Renewal  
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JBrand, RI  
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RBellamy, RI  
PBamford, RI  
MMcLaughlin, RI

\*Identical letters have been sent to the following State Historic Preservation Offices: Delaware Historic Preservation Office; Maryland Historical Trust; New Jersey Historic Preservation Office; and Pennsylvania Bureau of Historic Preservation

ADAMS Accession No. **ML093160444**

OFFICE	PM:RPB1:DLR	LA:RPOB:DLR	BC:RPB1:DLR
NAME	C. Eccleston	S. Figueroa	B. Pham (D. Ashley for)
DATE	11/23/09	11/23/09	11/24/09

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Hope Creek Generating Station and  
Salem Nuclear Generating Station,  
Units 1 and 2

cc:

Mr. Thomas Joyce  
President and Chief Nuclear Officer  
PSEG Nuclear LLC  
One Alloway Creek Neck Road  
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

Mr. Dennis Winchester  
Vice President - Nuclear Assessment  
PSEG Nuclear  
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Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

Mr. Robert Braun  
Site Vice President - Salem  
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Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

Mr. George Barnes  
Site Vice President - Hope Creek  
PSEG Nuclear  
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Mr. Carl Fricker  
Vice President - Operations Support  
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Mr. George Gellrich  
Plant Manager - Salem  
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Mr. Larry Wagner  
Site Vice President - Hope Creek  
PSEG Nuclear LLC  
One Alloway Creek Neck Road  
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Mr. James Mallon  
Manager - Licensing  
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Mr. Jeffrie J. Keenan, Esquire  
Manager - Licensing  
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One Alloway Creek Neck Road  
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

Mr. Michael Gaffney  
Manager - Hope Creek Regulatory  
Assurance  
PSEG Nuclear LLC  
One Alloway Creek Neck Road  
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

Mr. Steven Mannon  
Manager - Salem Regulatory Assurance  
P.O. Box 236  
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

Township Clerk  
Lower Alloways Creek Township  
Municipal Building, P.O. Box 157  
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

Mr. Paul Bauldauf, P.E., Asst. Director  
Radiation Protection Programs  
NJ Department of Environmental  
Protection and Energy, CN 415  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0415

Mr. Brian Beam  
Board of Public Utilities  
2 Gateway Center, Tenth Floor  
Newark, NJ 07102

Regional Administrator, Region I  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
475 Allendale Road  
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Hope Creek Generating Station and  
Salem Nuclear Generating Station,  
Units 1 and 2

- 2 -

cc:

Senior Resident Inspector  
Salem Nuclear Generating Station  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Drawer 0509  
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

Mr. William Mattingly  
Manager – Salem Regulatory Assurance  
PSEG Nuclear LLC  
One Alloway Creek Neck Road  
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

Mr. Michael Gallagher  
Vice President – License Renewal Projects  
Exelon Nuclear LLC  
200 Exelon Way  
Kennett Square, PA 19348

Mr. Earl R. Gage  
Salem County Administrator  
Administration Building  
94 Market Street  
Salem, NJ 08079

Mr. Ed Eilola  
Plant Manager – Salem  
PSEG Nuclear LLC  
One Alloway Creek Neck Road  
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

Senior Resident Inspector  
Hope Creek Generating Station  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Drawer 0509  
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

Mr. Larry Wagner  
Plant Manager – Hope Creek  
PSEG Nuclear LLC  
One Alloway Creek Neck Road  
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

Mr. Paul Davison  
Director – Nuclear Oversight  
PSEG Nuclear LLC  
One Alloway Creek Neck Road  
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

Ms. Christine Neely  
Director – Regulator Affairs  
PSEG Nuclear LLC  
One Alloway Creek Neck Road  
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

Mr. Ali Fakhar  
Manager, License Renewal  
PSEG Nuclear LLC  
One Alloway Creek Neck Road  
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

**SITE DESCRIPTION**  
**SALEM NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2, AND**  
**HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION, UNIT 1**

**SITE DESCRIPTION**

The Salem Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1 and 2 (SALEM), and Hope Creek Generating Station, Unit 1 (HCGS), sites are located on the southern part of Artificial Island on the east bank of the Delaware River in Lower Alloways Creek Township, Salem County, New Jersey. The sites are 15 miles south of the Delaware Memorial Bridge, 18 miles south of Wilmington, Delaware, and 7.5 miles southwest of Salem, New Jersey. The SALEM and HCGS sites each occupy approximately 220 acres and 153 acres within this area, respectively. The distances from the SALEM and HCGS reactor buildings to the site boundary are 4,200 feet and 2,960 feet, respectively. There are no major highways or railroads within approximately seven miles of the sites; the only land access is a road that PSEG Nuclear, LLC constructed to connect with an existing secondary road approximately three miles to the east. Barge traffic has access to the sites by way of the Intracoastal Waterway channel maintained in the Delaware River.

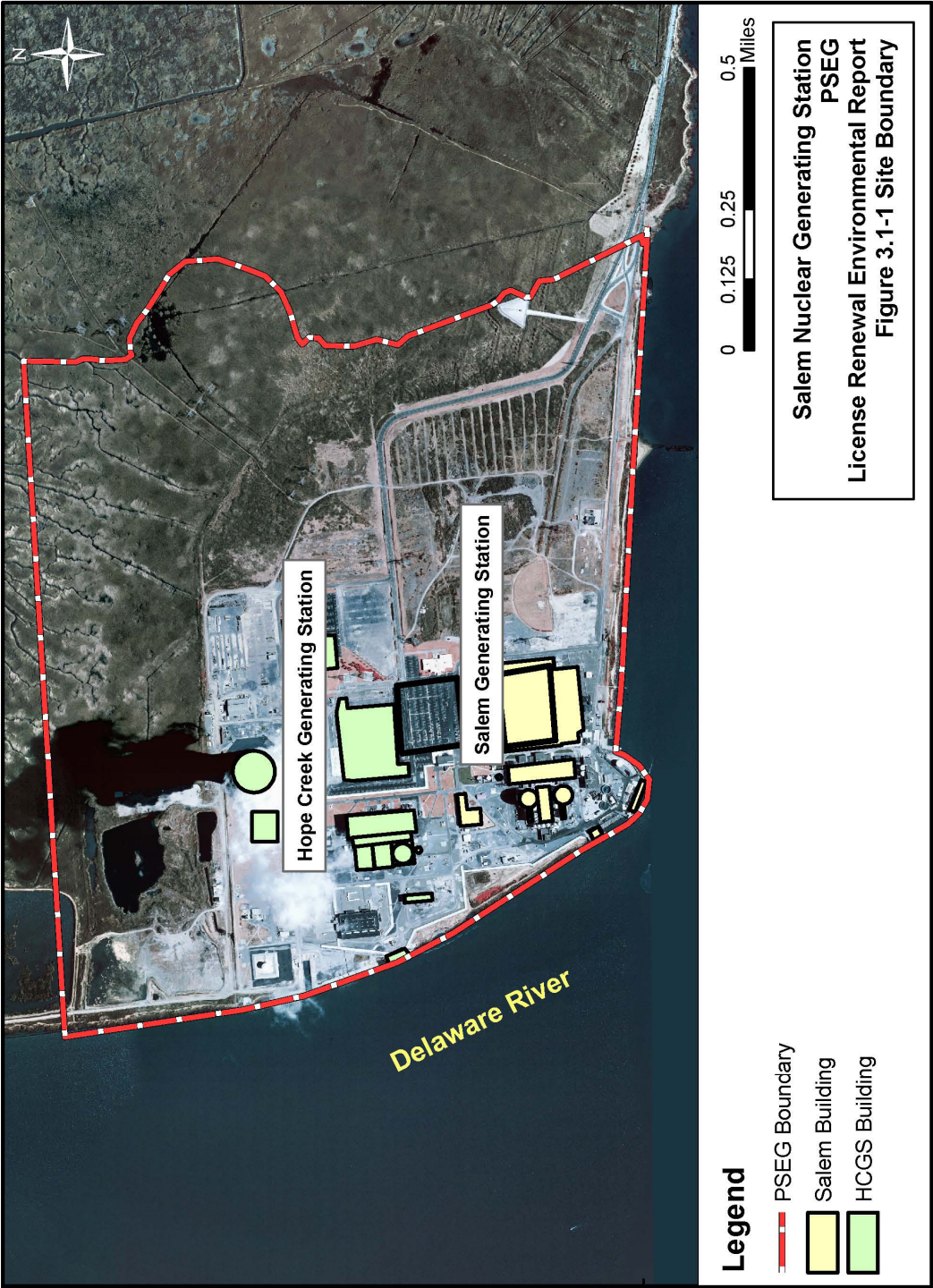
**TOPOGRAPHY**

Artificial Island is a 1,500-acre island that was created, beginning early in the twentieth century, when the United States Army Corps of Engineers began disposing of hydraulic dredge spoils within a progressively enlarged diked area established around a natural bar that projected into the river. Habitats on the low and flat island, which has an average elevation of approximately nine feet above mean sea level (msl) and a maximum elevation of about 18 feet above msl, can best be characterized as tidal marsh and grassland.

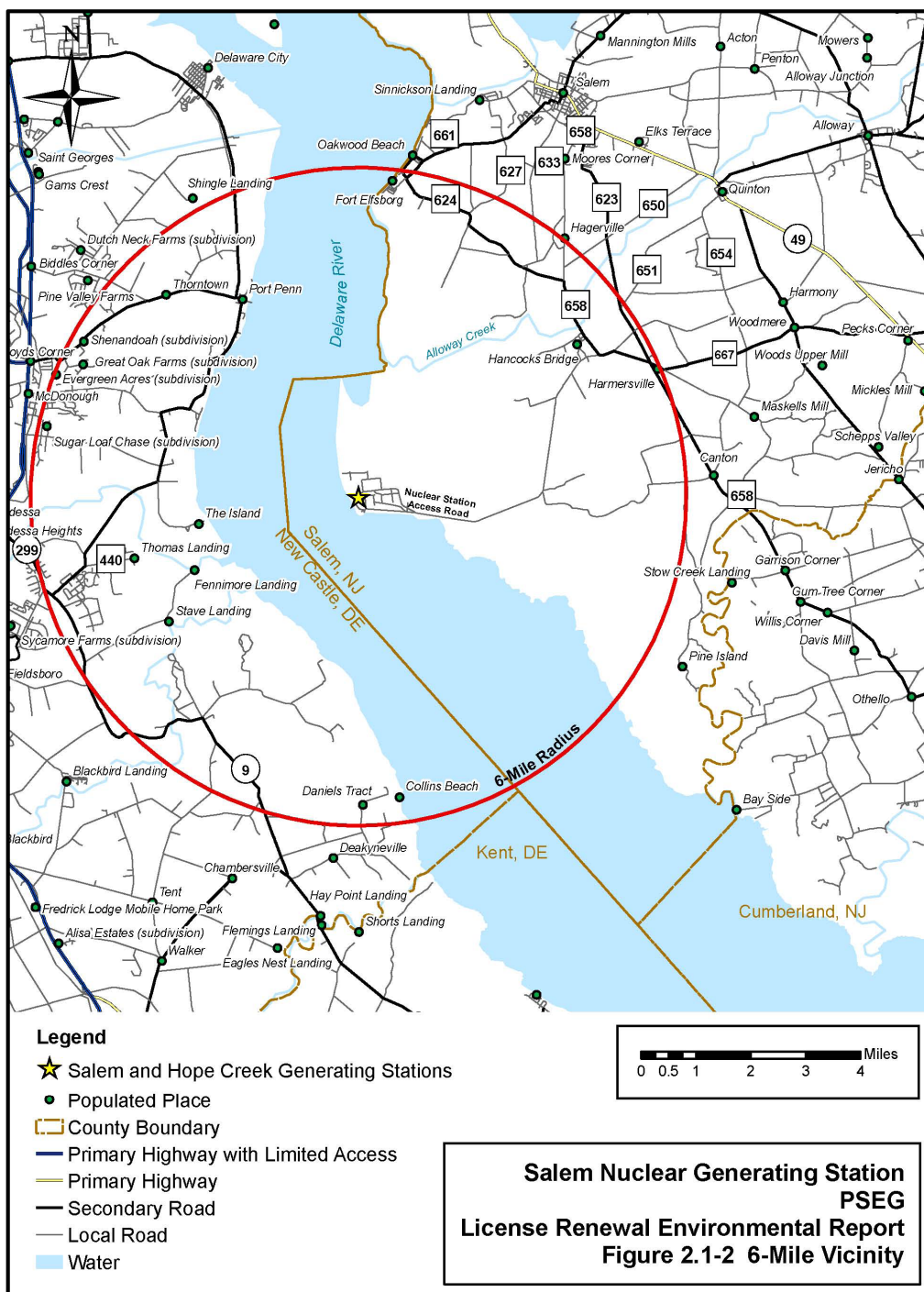
**TRANSMISSION LINE CORRIDORS**

Four 500-kV transmission lines extend beyond the site boundary to deliver electricity generated by SALEM and HCGS to the transmission system. One line extends north for 13 miles and then crosses over the New Jersey-Delaware state line. It then continues west over the Delaware River approximately four miles to the Red Lion substation. Two-thirds of the 17-mile corridor is 200 feet wide, and the remainder is 350 feet wide. Another segment of this line extends from the Red Lion substation eight miles northwest to the Keeney switch station. Two-thirds of the corridor is 200 feet wide and the remainder is 350 feet wide. Two lines share a 350 foot-wide corridor that extends approximately 40 miles north to the New Freedom switching station north of Williamstown, New Jersey. One of these lines is divided into two segments by the Orchard substation. The final 500-kV line extends northeast for 42 miles in a 350 foot-wide corridor to the New Freedom substation.

SITE BOUNDARY MAP  
SALEM NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2, AND  
HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION, UNIT 1



# **6-MILE VICINITY MAP** **SALEM NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2, AND** **HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION, UNIT 1**



# TRANSMISSION LINE MAP

## SALEM NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2, AND HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION, UNIT 1

