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Ref. 79-07

April 19, 1979

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555

Attention:

Mr. Albert Schwencer, Chief Operating Reactors Branch #1 Division of Operating Reactors

Gentlemen:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
REQUEST FOR AMENDMENT
FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE DPR-70
UNIT NO. 1
SALEM GENERATING STATION
DOCKET NO. 50-272

The following additional information is being supplied to support our request for amendment dated March 1, 1979, involving the deletion of the part length control rods from the Safety Technical Specifications (Appendix A).

Thimble plug assemblies (reference Salem FSAR Section 3.2.3.1.3) will be installed into the fuel assemblies in the locations previously occupied by the part length control rods. These thimble plug assemblies will be identical to the thimble plug assemblies currently being used in fuel assemblies which do not contain control rods, source rods, or burnable poison rods. The thimble plugs effectively limit bypass flow through the rod cluster control guide tubes of the fuel assemblies in which they are inserted. Since the thimble plugs are currently used in the core with no adverse thermal hydraulic effects, it can be concluded that there will be no adverse effects from the installation of the additional thimble plugs.

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The removal of the part length control rods has no impact on any physics characteristics of the Salem No. 1 reactor because use of them has been prohibited by the Technical Specifications and they have been locked in the full out position during operation. The installation of the thimble plugs will have no influence on the physics characteristics because the lowest position of the thimble plugs will be several inches above the top of the active fuel.

Very truly yours,

Frank P. Librizzi
General Manager Electric Production