

PROPOSED CHANGE  
REACTOR COOLANT SYSTEM  
SALEM UNIT NO. 2  
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Description of Change

Revise Technical Specification, Salem Unit No. 2, Section 8.7, to remove the requirements for the licensee to plug the row 1 tubes in the steam generators prior to exceeding 5 percent power.

Reasons for Change

At the present time, Westinghouse has committed to a joint program with Portland General Electric to investigate the cause and susceptibility of row 1 steam generator tubes to crack. The goal of this program is to find the cause of cracking and develop methods to determine potential tube leaks.

The staff has indicated in their June 9, 1980 letter to PSE&G (A. Schwencer to R. L. Mittl) that the decision for generically plugging the row 1 tubes of the Westinghouse steam generators would be made after the program results have been evaluated. This program is expected to be available for staff's review in October, 1980.

Salem Unit No. 2 expects to be in receipt of a full power license in the very near future. PSE&G therefore request that the decision to plug the first row tubes be delayed until the U bend inspection program results have been reviewed. If the program indicates that plugging is required, then PSE&G will reevaluate the commitment.

Safety Evaluation

The Westinghouse steam generator design for Salem No. 1 and 2 Units are identical. Based on the facts that Salem No. 1 Unit steam generators have operated beyond the first refueling without any leaks experienced in the row 1 tubes, that inspections indicate that both No. 1 and 2 Unit tubes and their bends do not have any significant geometrical abnormalities and that additional improvements affecting steam generator tube integrity have already been incorporated in the No. 2 Unit, (previously discussed in Letter from R. L. Mittl to Olan D. Parr dated April 15, 1980) PSE&G is confident that Unit No. 2 should assure leak free operation beyond its first refueling.

Based on the above, PSE&G believes it to be unnecessary to plug the row 1 tubes in the Salem tube steam generators at this time. However, PSE&G does recognize that plugging these tubes could become necessary if the results of the study now being conducted indicate that such action is required.