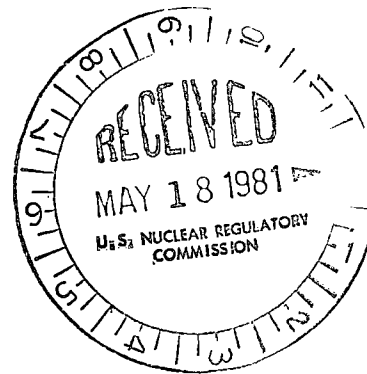




Public Service Electric and Gas Company 80 Park Place Newark, N.J. 07101 Phone 201/430-7000

May 7, 1981

Mr. Boyce H. Grier  
Director of USNRC  
Office of Inspection and Enforcement  
Region 1  
631 Park Avenue  
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406



Dear Mr. Grier:

LICENSE NO. DPR-70  
DOCKET NO. 50-272  
REPORTABLE OCCURRENCE 81-09/01X-1  
SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT

Pursuant to the requirements of Salem Generating Station Unit No. 1 Technical Specifications, Section 6.9.1, we are submitting supplemental Licensee Event Report for Reportable Occurrence 81-09/01X-1.

Sincerely yours,

*R. A. Uderitz*  
R. A. Uderitz  
General Manager -  
Nuclear Production

CC: Director, Office of Inspection  
and Enforcement (30 copies)  
Director, Office of Management  
Information and Program Control  
(3 copies)



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Report Number: 81-01X-1  
Report Date: May 7, 1981  
Occurrence Date: 1/29/81  
Facility: Salem Generating Station, Unit 1  
Public Service Electric & Gas Company  
Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey 08038

IDENTIFICATION OF OCCURRENCE:

Unidentified Leak in Containment

CONDITIONS PRIOR TO OCCURRENCE:

Mode 1 - Rx Power 55% - Unit Load 570 MW

DESCRIPTION OF OCCURRENCE:

During normal operations on January 29, 1981, Containment Sump Pump operation indicated that the Containment Sump had 4.3 gpm of unidentified leakage. Action Statement 3.4.6.2.b was entered at 1450 hours because this leakage rate exceeded the 1 gpm leakage rate allowed by Technical Specifications. The Action Statement requires that the leakage rate be reduced to within required limits (1 gpm) within four hours or be in at least hot standby within the next six hours and in cold shutdown within the following 30 hours.

While investigating, Operations personnel measured the condensate from each Containment Fan Cooling Unit. The No. 12 Containment Fan Unit read 3.5 gpm. The operators assumed that the No. 12 Fan Cooling Unit had a service water leak and notified the NRC IAW NRC IE Bulletin No. 80-24 of this erroneous plant condition. Subsequent investigation revealed that the Condensate Leak Rate had returned to normal and that the No. 12 Fan Cooling Unit was not leaking. The Action Statement was terminated at 1820 hours.

On January 30, 1981, the Containment Sump Level Monitoring System was declared inoperable because of erratic operation. The pump was starting approximately every 40 minutes and running for about 12 seconds each time it started. Action Statement 3.4.6.1.b was entered at 1635 hours.

DESIGNATION OF APPARENT CAUSE OF OCCURRENCE:

Equipment Failure - LD7750 (Magnetrol Level Detector) operating erratically.

ANALYSIS OF OCCURRENCE:

The Containment Sump level is normally controlled over a one foot span by level detector LD7749. At the time of the erratic operation, the No. 11 Sump Pump and LD7749 were out of service to clear a plugged line. The sump level was being controlled by level detector LD7750 and the No. 12 Sump Pump. When LD7750 is operating properly, the sump should be pumped down to a level slightly higher than the setpoint of LD7749 (LD7750 also controls level over a one foot span).

Investigation suggested that the float on LD7750 is either loose or canted in its well causing the No. 12 Sump Pump to operate erratically. As a result, the operators on shift miscalculated the leakage rate of the sump and assumed that there was an unidentified leak in containment. They then initiated an investigation of possible Containment Fan Coil leakage.

CORRECTIVE ACTION:

LD7750 was isolated from the control circuitry of the Sump Pumps. At the next major outage, it will be repaired or replaced. Action Statement 3.4.6.1.b was terminated at 0500 hours on January 31, 1981.

On March 8, 1981, the detector was removed and inspected. No failed components were found. After several unsuccessful calibration attempts, it was replaced in kind on March 9, 1981.

FAILURE DATA:

Magnetrol  
Level Detector - Model A103F - EP/VP-TDM-X  
Serial No. 568349

Prepared By W. J. Steele

SORC Meeting No. 81-26

*A. J. Repoluna*  
Manager - Salem Generating Station