Docket file



UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

July 13, 1984

Docket No. 50-311

Mr. Richard A. Uderitz, Vice President -Nuclear Public Service Electric and Gas Company Post Office Box 236 Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey 08038 DISTRIBUTION Docket File ORB#1 Rdg NRC PDR L PDR Gray File DEienhut OELD EJordan JNGrace DFischer CParrish BJE11iot WVJohnston

Dear Mr. Uderitz:

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PDR

By letter dated March 2, 1984, you submitted a request for a one-time only time extension to the reporting requirements in Appendix H to 10 CFR 50 from February 1984 to July 1984. In consonance with the current Appendix H, the summary technical report for the reactor vessel capsule withdrawn at Salem Nuclear Generating Station Unit 2 in February 1983 was to be submitted to the NRC by February, 1984. However, Westinghouse Electric Corporation, who was contracted to perform the capsule evaluation and write the report, was not sent the capsule until November, 1983. Westinghouse is planning to submit their report to you in May, and allowing for your review of the report, you anticipate submittal of the report to the NRC no later than July, 1984.

The purpose of the reactor vessel material surveillance program is to ensure reactor vessel integrity by evaluating the effect of neutron irradiation damage on the reactor vessel beltline materials. The test results from the reactor vessel surveillance materials are used to evaluate the safety margin in the licensee's pressure-temperature limits, which are required by Appendix G, 10 CFR 50.

The current Salem Unit No. 2 pressure-temperature limits are for a period of time corresponding to 9.3 effective full power years (EFPY). These curves include a conservative estimate of the amount of neutron irradiation damage that would occur after 9.3 EFPY of operation. You indicate that the present Salem Unit No. 2 core exposure is less than 1.3 EFPY. Hence, there is considerable margin between the amount of neutron irradiation damage calculated in the pressure-temperature limits and the actual amount of neutron irradiation damage to Salem Unit No. 2 core materials. As a result of this margin, a delay of five months in submittal of the capsule "T" test report will not affect reactor vessel integrity, and considering the longer term use of the test results for a vessel still early in its service life, a delay of five months for submittal of the capsule test report is acceptable.

The summary technical report detailing the test results of the reactor vessel capsule withdrawn in February 1983 has now been received. On the basis of the technical justification that you provided and the receipt of

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your report we propose not to take action on your request for an extension of the one year reporting requirements in 10 CFR Appendix H, Reactor Vessel Material Surveillance Program for Salem Unit 2.

We wish to note that this is yet another example of an oversight by Public Service Electric and Gas (PSE&G) that should not have occurred. It serves to reinforce our previous findings from the trip breaker events which concluded that improvements in the PSE&G operations and attention to detail are needed at Salem.

> Original signed by Darrell G. Eisenhut

Darrell G. Eisenhut, Director Division of Licensing

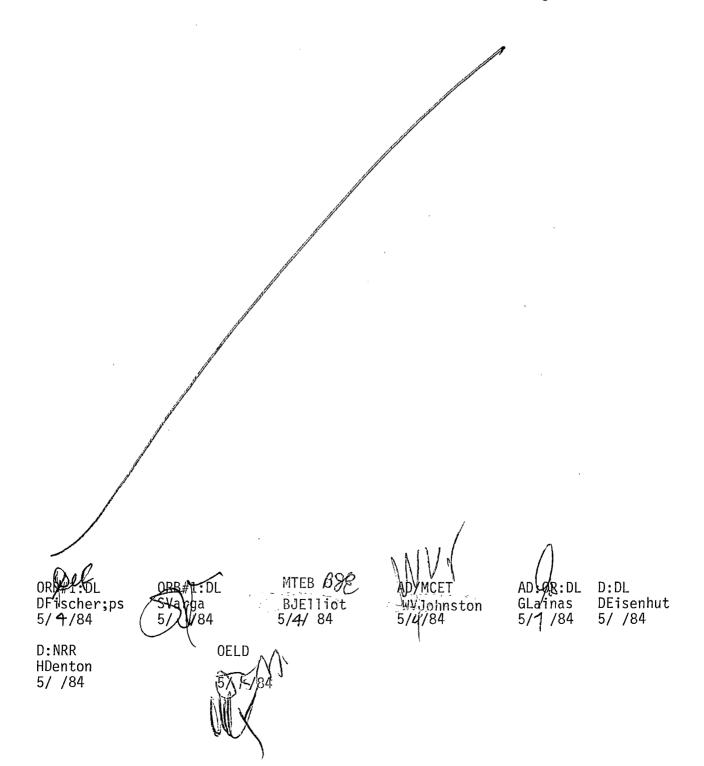
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A summary technical report detailing the test results of the reactor vessel capsule withdrawn in February 1983, shall be submitted to the Director, Office of Nuclear Rector Regulation, on or before July 31, 1984.

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Harold R. Denton, Director Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation



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