

Public Service
Electric and Gas
Company

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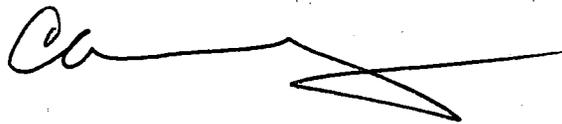
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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Washington, DC 20555

Gentlemen:

REPORT OF IMPINGEMENT OF SEA TURTLES
SALEM GENERATING STATION, UNIT NO. 2
DOCKET NO. 50-311

This report is being submitted pursuant to the requirements of Salem Unit 2 Environmental Technical Specifications, Sections 4.1.1 and 5.4.2.a, b and c. This report is required within thirty (30) days of discovery.

Sincerely,



Attachment

C Mr. D. C. Fisher
USNRC Licensing Project Manager

Mr. T. J. Kenny
USNRC Senior Resident Inspector

Mr. W. T. Russell, Administrator
USNRC Region I

Mr. D. M. Scott, Chief
Bureau of Nuclear Engineering
Department of Environmental Protection
380 Scotch Road
Trenton, NJ 08628

Mr. Richard Delgado
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

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IMPINGEMENT OF SEA TURTLES

REPORT: July 27, 1987

OCCURRENCE DATE: July 14, 16 and 20, 1987

FACILITY: Salem Generating Station, Units 1 and 2
Public Service Electric and Gas Company
Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey 08038

IDENTIFICATION OF OCCURRENCE:

Impingement of three Loggerhead (Caretta caretta) sea turtles on the Circulating Water System (CWS) intake trash bars. The loggerhead is federally listed as a "threatened" species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended.

CONDITIONS PRIOR TO OCCURRENCE

July 14, 1987 - Unit 1, 94%; Unit 2, 100% power
July 16, 1987 - Unit 1, 93%; Unit 2, 100% power
July 20, 1987 - Unit 1, 95%; Unit 2, 100% power

DESCRIPTION OF OCCURRENCES

On July 14, 1987, at 0800 hours, a Loggerhead sea turtle was reported on the trash bars of the CWS intake. Both units were at or near full power and eleven circulating pumps were in operation at the time the turtle was found. The turtle was captured during the cleaning of the trash racks and was in good shape when recovered. The specimen had a carapace length (CL) and width (CW) of 40.6 and 38.1 centimeters, respectively. Weight was estimated to be 13.6 kilograms. In accordance with the usual procedure, the turtle was turned over to R. Schoelkopf of the Marine Mammal Stranding Center (MMSC), of Brigantine, New Jersey, for observation and was released on July 18, 1987.

On July 16, 1987, at 0930 hours, a Loggerhead sea turtle was reported on the trash bars of the CWS intake. Both units were near full power and eleven circulating pumps were in operation at the time the turtle was found. The turtle was captured during the cleaning of the trash racks and was in good condition when recovered. The specimen had a carapace length (CL) and width (CW) of 40.5 and 35.5 centimeters, respectively. Weight was estimated to be 11.3 kilograms. In accordance with the usual procedure, the turtle was turned over to R. Schoelkopf of the Marine Mammal Stranding Center (MMSC), of Brigantine, New Jersey, for observation and was released on July 18, 1987.

On July 20, 1987, at 1000 hours, a Loggerhead sea turtle was reported on the trash bars of the CWS intake. Both units were near full power and eleven circulating pumps were in operation at the time the turtle was found. The turtle was captured during the cleaning of the trash racks and was in good condition when recovered. The specimen had a carapace length (CL) and width (CW) of 69.0 and 54.0 centimeters, respectively. Weight was estimated to be 36 kilograms. In accordance with the usual procedure, the turtle was turned over to R. Schoelkopf of the Marine Mammal Stranding Center (MMSC), of Brigantine, New Jersey, for observation and will be released by the end of July.

In each instance the Senior Shift Supervisor was notified of the event by the on-duty intake operator. The following agencies were notified after each occurrence (the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency requested that they be removed from the notification list since U.S. National Marine Fisheries Service was being notified).

Nuclear Regulatory Commission (Resident Inspector)

U. S. National Marine Fisheries Service

U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region II

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

Delaware Department of Natural Resources and
Environmental Control

APPARENT CAUSE OF OCCURRENCES

Sea turtles are a summer migrant, common to Delaware Bay. Small numbers typically occur in the lower Delaware River near Salem during July through September. Past experience indicates that healthy sea turtles are usually able to avoid the approach velocity of the CWS intake, although occasionally one will become impinged on the trash bars.

ANALYSIS OF OCCURRENCE

The CWS intake is monitored for the accumulation of debris, which is periodically removed. Any turtles which are observed impinged against the trash bars are recovered immediately. Between 1979 and present, a total of 26 sea turtles have been collected at or in the immediate vicinity of the plant. Of these, seven (27%) were Atlantic ridleys and 19 (73%) were Atlantic loggerheads. Of the total turtles collected, 8 (32%) were alive when recovered.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

The trash bars are observed at least once per 8 hour shift and cleaned at least once per day. Any sea turtle observed on the trash bars is removed immediately. Resuscitation will be attempted if the turtle is not unquestionably dead. In accordance with standard procedure, all specimens will be held under appropriate conditions and turned over to the Marine Mammal Stranding Center.