

Public Service  
Electric and Gas  
Company

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United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Document Control Desk  
Washington, DC 20555

Gentlemen:

TRIAL SNUBBER PROGRAM  
SALEM UNIT NO. 1  
DOCKET NO. 50-272

Salem Unit 1 currently uses Pacific Scientific type mechanical snubber models PSA-1/4 and PSA-1/2. These snubbers have historically exhibited a high failure rate during surveillance testing. Consequently, PSE&G has been evaluating the possibility of replacing these snubbers with types having a better performance record. Our evaluations have identified Lisega hydraulic snubbers, manufactured in Germany, to have a superior performance record. PSE&G has implemented a pilot program to replace, on a trial basis, five mechanical snubbers with Lisega hydraulic snubbers during the current Salem Unit 1 outage. These snubbers will be placed into service until the next refueling outage, at which time they will be removed and functionally tested and evaluated.

Mr. Don Fischer of your staff was contacted on December 10, 1987, concerning this matter. PSE&G requested that the trial snubber program be controlled under the provisions of 10CFR50.59. Mr. Fischer was informed that the Lisega snubbers are a replacement since these snubbers have the same design load, qualification, pin to pin distance, and end attachments as the PSA models. Also, like the PSA models, the Lisega snubbers are built to ASME Section III requirements. Unlike the PSA models however, each Lisega snubber is dynamically tested and evaluated by the manufacturer.

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On December 14, 1987, Mr. Fischer indicated that after discussions with NRR technical review personnel, the snubber trial program could be conducted subject to the requirements of 10CFR50.59. Furthermore, he requested that this matter be documented in writing. This letter provides this documentation.

If you should have any further questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



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

Mr. T. J. Kenny  
USNRC Senior Resident Inspector

Mr. W. T. Russell, Administrator  
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