



Public Service Electric and Gas Company P.O. Box E Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey 08038

Salem Generating Station

September 27, 1988

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Sir:

SALEM GENERATING STATION
LICENSE NO. DPR-75
DOCKET NO. 50-311
UNIT NO. 2
SPECIAL REPORT 88-7

This Special Report addresses fire barrier penetration impairments which have not been restored to functional status within seven (7) days. This report satisfies the reporting requirements of Technical Specification Action 3.7.11.a pursuant to Technical Specification 6.9.2. It is being submitted within thirty (30) days as per the Action Statement.

Sincerely yours,

L. K. Miller
General Manager-
Salem Operations

MJP:pc

Distribution

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The Energy People

PLANT AND SYSTEM IDENTIFICATION:

Salem Generating Station - Unit 2
Public Service Electric & Gas Company
Hancock's Bridge, New Jersey 08038

IDENTIFICATION OF OCCURRENCE:

Technical Specification 3.7.11; Fire Barriers Impaired For Greater Than Seven (7) Days

Event Date: 09/02/88

Report Date: 09/27/88

This report was initiated by Incident Report Nos. 88-351.

CONDITIONS PRIOR TO OCCURRENCE:

Unit 2: Mode 1 Reactor Power 73% - Unit Load 790 MWe

DESCRIPTION OF OCCURRENCE:

On August 26, 1988 two (2) fire barrier electrical penetrations, in 78' Elevation Electrical Penetration Area (Aux. Building), were found degraded by Site Protection Department personnel. They were found during performance of Technical Specification Surveillance 4.7.11, which requires fire barrier penetrations be visually inspected every 18 months to ensure continued operability of the penetration seals. Both penetrations had conduit sleeving containing electrical cable. One penetration was 3.5" in diameter and although sealed with silicone foam, air could be felt rushing through it. The other penetration was 2" in diameter and had no seal around the conduit sleeve.

An hourly roving fire watch had been established for these areas previously due to other fire protection concerns. Therefore, the requirements of Technical Specification Action Statement 3.7.11.a, were met.

Technical Specification 3.7.11 states:

"All fire penetrations (including cable penetration barriers, fire doors and fire dampers), in fire zone boundaries, protecting safety related areas shall be OPERABLE."

Action Statement 3.7.11.a states:

"With one (1) or more of the above required fire barrier penetrations inoperable, within one hour either establish a continuous fire watch on at least one side of the affected penetration, or verify the OPERABILITY of fire detectors on at least one side of the inoperable fire barrier and establish an hourly fire watch patrol. Restore the inoperable fire barrier penetration(s) to OPERABLE status within 7 days or, in lieu of any other report required by Specification 6.9.1, prepare and submit a Special Report to the Commission pursuant to Specification 6.9.2 within the next 30 days outlining the action

DESCRIPTION OF OCCURRENCE: (cont'd)

taken, the cause of the inoperable penetration and plans and schedule for restoring the fire barrier penetration(s) to OPERABLE status."

APPARENT CAUSE OF OCCURRENCE:

The cause of the degraded fire barrier penetrations could not be positively determined.

ANALYSIS OF OCCURRENCE:

The functional integrity of the penetration fire barriers ensures that fires will be confined or adequately retarded from spreading to adjacent portions of the facility. This design feature minimizes the possibility of a single fire involving several areas of the facility. The fire barrier penetration seals are a passive element in the facility fire protection program and are subject to periodic inspections. This report satisfies the reporting requirements of Technical Specification Action Statement 3.7.11.a pursuant to Technical Specification 6.9.2 (both Units) since the time between discovery and eventual repair of the fire barrier impairments is greater than seven (7) days. Appropriate actions were already in place in accordance with the requirements of Technical Specification Action Statement 3.7.11.a (both Units) to establish an hourly roving fire watch patrol for the impaired fire barriers once the impairments were identified.

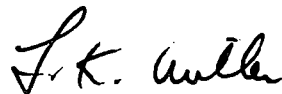
The subject fire areas contain detection in addition to the roving fire watch patrol. Therefore, it is reasonable to assume that a fire in either area would be detected before it could involve an adjacent area. This occurrence therefore involved no undue risk to the health or safety of the public.

CORRECTIVE ACTION:

The hourly roving fire watch patrol, as addressed in the Description of Occurrence section, will continue until all fire protection concerns associated with this area are resolved.

The repair of the penetrations was not accomplished within seven (7) days due to the additional review being conducted by the Penetration Seal Task Force. The review has been completed and the penetrations have been sealed.

This review and corrective action will be completed in accordance with PSE&G letter NLR-N88037, dated March 4, 1988, to the NRC which discusses the Penetration Seal Review Program schedule.



General Manager -
Salem Operations