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Docket Nos. 50-272, 50-311 and 50-354

> Mr. Steven E. Miltenberger Vice President and Chief Nuclear Officer Public Service Electric and Gas Company Post Office Box 236 Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey 08038

Dear Mr. Miltenberger:

SUBJECT: SECTION 7 REINITIATED BIOLOGICAL CONSULTATION, BIOLOGICAL OPINION, SALEM NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2, AND HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION (TAC NOS. M84255 AND M84256)

Enclosed is the Biological Opinion issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) of the Department of Commerce on August 4, 1992. The Biological Opinion concludes the reinitiated consultation begun in August 1991 as a result of the relative large number of sea turtles taken in the summer of 1991. The major change was to increase the incidental take allowance. However, it should be noted that the transmittal letter from NMFS states that sea turtles that are obviously dead prior to impingement will not be counted against the allowance provided in the latest Biological Opinion.

Public Service Electric and Gas Company (PSE&G) is requested to review the enclosed Biological Opinion. Based on that review, PSE&G is requested to propose changes to the Environmental Protection Plan, Appendix B of the Salem and Hope Creek licenses, as necessary to implement the new Biological Opinion or confirm that changes are not necessary, within 90 days of the date of this letter. This requirement affects 9 or fewer respondents and, therefore, is not subject to the Office of Management and Budget review under P.L. 96.511.

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

August 25, 1992

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Sincerely,

Clark t

Charles L. Miller, Director Project Directorate I-2 Division of Reactor Projects - I/II Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure: Biological Opinion Dated August 4, 1992

cc w/enclosure: See next page Mr. Steven E. Miltenberger Public Service Electric & Gas Company

cc:

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cc:

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W. W. Fox, Jr. Assistant Administrator for Fisheries National Marine Fisheries Service 1335 East West Highway Silver Spring, Maryland 20910 Salem Nuclear Generating Station, Unit 1 and 2, and Hope Creek Generating Station

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