



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

REGION I
2100 RENAISSANCE BOULEVARD, SUITE 100
KING OF PRUSSIA, PA 19406-2713

April 12, 2018

EA-17-195

Mr. Peter P. Sena, III
Chief Nuclear Officer
PSEG Nuclear LLC – N09
P. O. Box 236
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

**SUBJECT: SALEM NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2 –
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION INVESTIGATION REPORT
NO. 1-2017-010**

Dear Mr. Sena:

This letter refers to an investigation conducted by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Office of Investigations (OI) at PSEG Nuclear, LLC's (PSEG's) Salem Nuclear Generating Station (Salem). The investigation, which was completed on November 17, 2017, was conducted to determine whether a former maintenance technician employed by PSEG at Salem violated the PSEG fitness-for-duty (FFD) policy by consuming alcohol within the Salem protected area (PA). The investigation was initiated after the NRC received notification from PSEG on January 1, 2017, indicating that the technician had failed a for-cause FFD test.

Specifically, PSEG shift management informed the NRC Senior Resident Inspector at Salem that the technician, who had been working a night shift starting on December 31, 2016, had been observed acting unusually (i.e., becoming overly talkative), and was administered the FFD test, which was positive for alcohol. Upon questioning by PSEG, the technician admitted that he had brought alcohol onsite inside of an iced tea container and that he had consumed it while within the Salem protected area (PA). PSEG security staff seized the container and searched other areas of the site where the technician had worked to ensure no other prohibited items remained. The licensee also evaluated the work the technician had performed that night and verified that he had not conducted any activities related to nuclear safety.

The licensee immediately terminated the technician's site access authorization, in accordance with the requirements specified in Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 26.75(c), which states, in part, that any individual who is determined to have been involved in the consumption of alcohol within a protected area of any nuclear power plant shall immediately have his or her authorization unfavorably terminated and denied for a minimum of 5 years from the date of the unfavorable termination of authorization.

Based on the results of the NRC OI investigation, including the technician's testimony that he brought the bottle containing alcohol onsite and consumed it while working in the Salem PA, the NRC determined that the technician deliberately violated PSEG's FFD Policy which, as required by 10 CFR Part 26, prohibits alcohol consumption on any PSEG Nuclear property, during the period of any tour of duty, and within 5 hours preceding arrival at the facility. The NRC also determined that PSEG appropriately implemented the provisions in Part 26 and its FFD Policy. Therefore, the NRC is not taking any enforcement action against PSEG associated with this event.

You are not required to respond to this letter. However, should you choose to respond, your response should be sent to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Regional Administrator, Region I, 2100 Renaissance Boulevard, Suite 100, King of Prussia, PA 19406, and marked "Open by Addressee Only," within 30 days of the date of this letter, with a copy to the NRC Senior Resident Inspector at Salem. In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room and from the NRC's Agency-wide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

Please note that final NRC investigation documents, such as the OI report described above, may be made available to the public under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) subject to redaction of information appropriate under the FOIA. Requests under the FOIA should be made in accordance with 10 CFR 9.23, Requests for Records. Additional information is available on the NRC website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/foia/foia-privacy.html>.

Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Mr. Raymond K. McKinley at 610-337-5150.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Jimi T. Yerokun, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 50-272, 50-311
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