Public Service
Electric and Gas
Company

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United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Document Control Desk
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Gentlemen:

NRC BULLETIN 88-04
SALEM GENERATING STATION
UNIT NO. 1
FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NOS. DPR-70
DOCKET NO. 50-272

By letters dated August 31, 1990, and supplemented in May 29, 1992 (Refs: NLR-N90172 and NLR-N92047 respectively) Public Service Electric and Gas Company (PSE&G) committed to install a permanent modification to the Residual Heat Removal (RHR) system to address the Bulletin 88-04 concerns on RHR Pump interactions.

As a result of conversations between the NRC Salem Project Manager and members of my staff, and PSE&G design engineering analysis; it was determined that the administratively controlled compensatory actions would suffice to meet the intent of Bulletin 88-04. Accordingly, PSE&G will not implement any hardware modification to the RHR system as stated in our previous correspondence (Ref: NLR-N90172; dated August 31, 1990).

The Technical Specification surveillance program in accordance with 4.0.5-P testing will be used to monitor for strong-weak pump interaction. The test procedure has been verified to include provisions to monitor recirculation flows when both pumps are placed in paralleled operations. Tracking and trending of these test results, including historical data, does not indicate that a significant strong-to-weak pump interaction has occurred. Recirculation flows do not fluctuate by more than approximately 50 GPM, with both pumps developing recirculation flows of approximately 500 GPM.

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Maximum recirculation flow to support at least 3 hours of operations has been determined to be 300 GPM. The acceptance criteria for determining pump operability shall be reviewed to include guidance for recirculation flows less than 300 GPM. If, during during parallel operations, recirculation flow should drop below 300 GPM on any pump, that pump shall be declared inoperable.

As stated above, the surveillance acceptance criteria provides limits for required actions, thus ensuring action would be taken and degradation would not proceed and result in a dead-head condition.

PSE&G believes that this test can accurately predict pump performance, and when necessary appropriate corrective actions will be taken to ensure continued operability of the RHR pumps. These corrective/preventative actions may include pump refurbishment, replacement, or other appropriate action as determined by PSE&G at the time of the event.

Should you have any questions regarding this transmittal, please do not hesitated to contact me.

Sincerely,

Attachment

C Mr. J. C. Stone
Licensing Project Manager

Mr. T. Johnson
Senior Resident Inspector

Mr. T. Martin, Administrator
Region I

Mr. Kent Tosch, Manager IV
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