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JAN 26 1994

Docket No. 50-272
NOED No. 94-I-003

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

Dear Mr. Miltenberger:

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF ENFORCEMENT DISCRETION FOR SALEM GENERATING
STATION UNIT 1

In a letter dated January 21, 1994, you requested the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to exercise its discretion by permitting a one time, 72 hour extension of the allowed outage time for an inoperable turbine driven Auxiliary Feed Water (AFW) pump. On January 17, 1994, upon entry into Mode 3 to progress with unit start-up activities, you entered a 72 hour action statement to allow testing of the AFW pump at 750 psig. When the pump was taken out of recirculation mode to start feeding the steam generators, flow oscillation was noted. To resolve the problem, your staff determined that troubleshooting efforts must be accomplished by remaining in Mode 3 to allow testing of the AFW pump with sufficient steam pressure (i.e., >750 psig) to ascertain the best configuration for pump operation. Accordingly, your staff judged that the troubleshooting efforts would require more time than was allowed by the time remaining in the action statement, which was due to expire at 0310 on January 20, 1994.

Based on our understanding of the conditions of your request, the safety significance, and the compensatory actions; and your plan for resolution of the AFW pump oscillation problem, we provided verbal approval to extend the action time for an additional 72 hours, from January 20 to January 23 at 0310, in a telephone discussion between Mr. Hagan of your staff and Mr. Wayne Lanning of this office on January 19, 1994. Subsequently, you initiated your troubleshooting plan, and were able to effect satisfactory resolution of the oscillation problem sufficient to exit the action statement at 2228 on January 20, 1994.

We have subsequently reviewed your documented justification for the extension and have concluded that the requested action involved no significant safety impact. Accordingly, we are satisfied that the exercise of enforcement discretion was warranted from a public health and safety perspective. The action permitted continued testing and operational verification of the AFW pump under conditions that more closely approximated the actual operating environment, and promoted the expeditious return of Unit 1 to service during a period of time of excessive load demand on the grid due to abnormally severe regional weather conditions. Therefore, we

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confirm our verbal approval as previously discussed. We appreciate your cooperation with our staff relative to this matter.

Sincerely,
Original Signed By:

Richard W. Cooper, II, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

cc:

J. J. Hagan, Vice President, Nuclear Operations
C. Schaefer, External Operations - Nuclear, Delmarva Power & Light Co.
S. LaBruna, Vice President - Engineering
C. Vondra, General Manager - Salem Operations
R. Hovey, General Manager - Hope Creek Operations
F. Thomson, Manager, Licensing and Regulation
R. Swanson, General Manager - QA and Nuclear Safety Review
J. Robb, Director, Joint Owner Affairs
A. Tapert, Program Administrator
R. Fryling, Jr., Esquire
M. Wetterhahn, Esquire
P. J. Curham, Manager, Joint Generation Department,
Atlantic Electric Company
Consumer Advocate, Office of Consumer Advocate
William Conklin, Public Safety Consultant, Lower Alloways Creek Township
K. Abraham, PAO
Public Document Room (PDR)
Local Public Document Room (LPDR)
Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)
NRC Resident Inspector
State of New Jersey

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bcc:

T. Martin, RA
W. Kane, DRA
J. Partlow, NRR
W. Russell, NRR
J. Lieberman, OE
S. Varga, NRR
C. Miller, NRR
J. Stone, NRR
S. Dembek, NRR
V. McCree, OEDO
J. Wiggins, DRS
R. Cooper, DRP
W. Lanning, DRP
E. Wenzinger, DRP
J. White, DRP
R. Summers, DRP
S. Morris, DRP
C. Marschall, SRI
W. Ruland, DRS
D. Holody, ORA
NOED File

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RI:DRP

RI:ORA

RI:DRP

RI:DRP

NRR

JWhite
1/26/94

EWenzinger
1/ /94

DHolody
1/ /94

WLanning
1/ /94

RCooper
1/ /94

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D. Holody, ORA
NOED File

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RI:DRP

RI:DRP

RI:DRP

NRR

JWhite
1/ /94

EWenzinger
1/26/94

WLanning
1/26/94

RCooper
1/26/94

Calder via telephone
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