

DCS

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

SEP 7 1994

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 VIOLATION) COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT NOS.
50-272/94-18, 50-311/94-18, AND 50-354/94-18

This letter refers to the announced inspection conducted by Mr. R. Skokowski of this office on August 8-12, and 18-22, 1994, at the Salem and Hope Creek Nuclear Generating Stations in Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report.

This inspection reviewed actions taken to address previously identified electrical distribution system functional inspection (EDSFI) unresolved items. In addition, this inspection evaluated the effectiveness of the root cause investigations initiated in response to malfunctions of the Salem automatic rod control systems and the Salem 1A emergency diesel generator (EDG).

The inspection was directed toward areas important to public health and safety to determine whether activities authorized by the license were conducted safely and in accordance with NRC requirements. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selected examinations of design calculations, relevant procedures, representative records, installed equipment, interviews with personnel, and observations by the inspector.

Based on the results of this inspection, certain of your activities appeared to be in violation of NRC requirements, as specified in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice). The violation is of concern because the acceptance criteria for the 125V dc battery service test at Hope Creek and Salem Units 1 and 2 were inadequate to assure the functionality of safety-related equipment. Specifically, the acceptance criteria provided in the test procedures were not consistent with design documents and were not conservative. The inadequate acceptance criteria was identified as an unresolved item at Hope Creek by the EDSFI in early 1992. However, your engineering staff failed to adequately address a similar problem with the Salem test procedures.

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TEU

Mr. Steven E. Miltenberger

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During an August 23, 1994, telephone conversation with Mr. F. Thomson of your staff, Mr. Skokowski confirmed PSE&G's commitment to complete a technical specification change request for the Hope Creek 125V battery service test acceptance criteria.

Your corrective actions to address two previously identified deviations and one unresolved item at Hope Creek and three unresolved items at both the Salem Units were review and closed.

The inspector concluded that when your maintenance staff started around-the-clock troubleshooting of the rod control process signal noise, the troubleshooting was methodical and thorough. Additionally, the troubleshooting associated with the EDG load fluctuators was adequate. The root cause analysis for the identified EDG component failures was not completed at the conclusion of this inspection and was considered an unresolved item.

You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. In your response, you should document the specific actions taken and any additional actions you plan to prevent recurrence. Also included in your response should be the reasons why your engineering staff failed to adequately address the acceptance criteria for the Salem procedures after the similar problem was identified at Hope Creek. After reviewing your response to this Notice, including your proposed corrective actions and the results of future inspections, the NRC will determine whether further NRC enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with NRC regulatory requirements.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosure(s), and your response will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

The responses directed by this letter and the enclosed Notice are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, Pub. L. No. 96.511.

Your cooperation with us is appreciated.

Sincerely,

William H. Ruland, Chief
Electrical Section
Division of Reactor Safety

Enclosures:

1. Notice of Violation
2. Combined Inspection Report Nos. 50-272/94-18
50-311/94-18, and 50-354/94-18 w/Attachment 1

Mr. Steven E. Miltenberger

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cc w/encl:

J. J. Hagan, Vice President-Operations/General Manager-Salem Operations
S. LaBruna, Vice President - Engineering and Plant Betterment
C. Schaefer, External Operations - Nuclear, Delmarva Power & Light Co.
R. Hovey, General Manager - Hope Creek Operations
F. Thomson, Manager, Licensing and Regulation
J. Robb, Director, Joint Owner Affairs
A. Tapert, Program Administrator
A. Giardino, Acting Manager, Quality Assurance
B. Hall, Acting Manager, Nuclear Safety Review
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 (2)
Public Document Room (PDR)
Local Public Document Room (LPDR)
Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)
NRC Resident Inspector
State of New Jersey
State of Delaware

bcc w/encl:

Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)
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Kay Gallagher, DRP
DRS (2)

bcc w/encl: (Via E-Mail)

J. Stone, NRR
W. Dean, OEDO
M. Thadani, Acting PDI-2, NRR
M. Shannon, ILPB
M. Callahan, OCA

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