

June 2, 1995

Mr. Leon Eliason  
Chief Nuclear Officer and President  
Nuclear Business Unit  
Public Service Electric and Gas Company  
P.O. Box 236  
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

SUBJECT: REQUALIFICATION TRAINING PROGRAM INSPECTION NOS. 50-272/95-08 AND  
50-311/95-08

Dear Mr. Eliason:

This letter refers to the announced safety inspection of the licensed operator requalification training program at the Salem Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1 and 2. The inspection was conducted by Messrs. Paul Bissett and Stephen Barr from April 10 - 19, 1995. The inspection was conducted to verify that the Salem requalification program for licensed operators ensured safe power plant operation by adequately evaluating how well individual operators and crews have mastered training and performance objectives. The results of this inspection were discussed with Mr. L. Catalfomo, and other members of your staff at the conclusion of the inspection on April 19, 1995.

The inspectors concluded that the licensed operator requalification program and the associated annual operating examinations were effective in ensuring the continued safe operation of the two units. Notwithstanding the above, the inspectors expressed concern over the manner in which, during the development of the annual examinations, your staff had an individual sign an examination security agreement with which the individual and his supervisor were aware would not be fully complied. Specifically, this individual continued with instructional duties even though the security agreement appeared to preclude him from doing so. In this instance, based upon the inspectors' review, it was determined that the integrity of the examination was not compromised; however, the appearance of examination compromise existed. For this reason, we request that you respond to us in writing addressing your evaluation of this incident, including the root causes, and any corrective actions you have taken or plan to take to address this concern.

The inspectors also reviewed your program for ensuring the medical fitness of your licensed operators, and determined that the NRC had not been notified of a change in the medical status of one licensed operator who could no longer perform watching-standing duties without the use of corrective lenses. We determined that this was an isolated instance with minimal safety consequences and that your corrective actions were prompt and acceptable. Therefore, in accordance with Section VII.B of the Enforcement Policy, enforcement discretion was exercised and a violation was not cited.

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

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Should you have any questions regarding this inspection or our request to respond in writing regarding the problem with examination security agreements, please contact me via telephone at (610) 337-5211 or via e-mail (address "GWM@NRC.GOV").

Sincerely,

Glenn W. Meyer, Chief  
BWR and PWR Sections  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 50-272; 50-311

Enclosure: Requalification Training Program Inspection Nos. 50-272/95-08 and 50-311/95-08

cc w/encl:

J. J. Hagan, Vice President-Operations  
R. Burricelli, Acting Vice President - Engineering and Plant Betterment  
C. Schaefer, External Operations - Nuclear, Delmarva Power & Light Co.  
R. Burricelli, General Manager - Informations Systems & External Affairs  
J. Summers, General Manager - Salem Operations  
J. Benjamin, Director - Quality Assurance & Safety Review  
F. Thomson, Manager, Licensing and Regulation  
R. Kankus, Joint Owner Affairs  
A. Tapert, Program Administrator  
R. Fryling, Jr., Esquire  
M. Wetterhahn, Esquire  
P. MacFarland Goelz, Manager, Joint Generation  
Atlantic Electric  
Consumer Advocate, Office of Consumer Advocate  
William Conklin, Public Safety Consultant, Lower Alloways Creek Township  
Public Service Commission of Maryland  
State of New Jersey  
State of Delaware

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