



PSEG

Public Service Electric and Gas Company P.O. Box 236 Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey 08038-0236

Nuclear Business Unit

FEB 08 1996

LR-N96027

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

Gentlemen:

LER 311/96-001
SALEM GENERATING STATION - UNIT 2
FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-75
DOCKET NO. 50-311

This Licensee Event Report entitled "Technical Specification
Violation: Failure to Perform Chemistry Sampling Within Required
Timeframe" is being submitted pursuant to the requirements of the
Code of Federal Regulations 10CFR50.73(a)(2)(i)(B).

Sincerely,

Clay Warren
General Manager -
Salem Operations

Attachment

SORC Mtg. 96-014

JEH/tcp

C Distribution
LER File 3.7

9602120274 960208
PDR ADOCK 05000311
S PDR

The power is in your hands.

Handwritten initials: JER 11

Attachment A

The following item represents a commitment that Public Service Electric & Gas (PSE&G) made to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) relative to this LER (311/96-001-00). The commitment is as follows:

1. A formal Chemistry Department shift turnover process will be proceduralized by February 29, 1996.

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)

(See reverse for required number of digits/characters for each block)

ESTIMATED BURDEN PER RESPONSE TO COMPLY WITH THIS MANDATORY INFORMATION COLLECTION REQUEST: 50.0 HRS. REPORTED LESSONS LEARNED ARE INCORPORATED INTO THE LICENSING PROCESS AND FED BACK TO INDUSTRY. FORWARD COMMENTS REGARDING BURDEN ESTIMATE TO THE INFORMATION AND RECORDS MANAGEMENT BRANCH (T-6 F33), U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION, WASHINGTON, DC 20555-0001, AND TO THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION PROJECT (3150-0104), OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, WASHINGTON, DC 20503.

FACILITY NAME (1)
SALEM GENERATING STATION - UNIT 2

DOCKET NUMBER (2)
05000311

PAGE (3)
1 OF 3

TITLE (4)
Technical Specification Violation: Failure To Perform Chemistry Sampling Within Required Timeframe

EVENT DATE (5)			LER NUMBER (6)			REPORT DATE (7)			OTHER FACILITIES INVOLVED (8)	
MONTH	DAY	YEAR	YEAR	SEQUENTIAL NUMBER	REVISION NUMBER	MONTH	DAY	YEAR	FACILITY NAME	DOCKET NUMBER
01	09	96	96	001	00	02	08	96		05000
										05000

OPERATING MODE (9)	POWER LEVEL (10)	THIS REPORT IS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF 10 CFR §: (Check one or more) (11)								
N	0	20.2201(b)	20.2203(a)(2)(v)	X	50.73(a)(2)(i)	50.73(a)(2)(viii)				
		20.2203(a)(1)	20.2203(a)(3)(i)		50.73(a)(2)(ii)	50.73(a)(2)(x)				
		20.2203(a)(2)(i)	20.2203(a)(3)(ii)		50.73(a)(2)(iii)	73.71				
		20.2203(a)(2)(ii)	20.2203(a)(4)		50.73(a)(2)(iv)	OTHER				
		20.2203(a)(2)(iii)	50.36(c)(1)		50.73(a)(2)(v)	Specify in Abstract below or in NRC Form 366A				
		20.2203(a)(2)(iv)	50.36(c)(2)		50.73(a)(2)(vii)					

LICENSEE CONTACT FOR THIS LER (12)

NAME Dennis V. Hassler, LER Coordinator	TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include Area Code) 609-339-1989
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COMPLETE ONE LINE FOR EACH COMPONENT FAILURE DESCRIBED IN THIS REPORT (13)

CAUSE	SYSTEM	COMPONENT	MANUFACTURER	REPORTABLE TO NPRDS	CAUSE	SYSTEM	COMPONENT	MANUFACTURER	REPORTABLE TO NPRDS

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT EXPECTED (14)

YES (If yes, complete EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE).	X	NO	EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE (15)	MONTH	DAY	YEAR
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ABSTRACT (Limit to 1400 spaces, i.e., approximately 15 single-spaced typewritten lines) (16)

On January 9, 1996, a waste gas holdup system sample required to be taken every 24 hours was collected 85 minutes late. The follow-up analysis was completed within the authorized 4 hour time period. At the time of the discovery, both units were in an extended outage with all fuel removed from the reactor vessels, Technical Specification mode "undefined".

The root cause of this occurrence was personnel error. A supervisor in the Chemistry Department failed to direct a technician to perform the analysis procedure. A contributing cause was inadequate communication within the Chemistry Department. Corrective actions include personnel counseling and improvements in the Chemistry Department shift turnover process.

This event is reportable in accordance with 10 CFR 50.73 (a) (2) (i) (B), any condition prohibited by the plant's Technical Specifications.

**LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)
TEXT CONTINUATION**

FACILITY NAME (1)	DOCKET NUMBER (2)	LER NUMBER (6)			PAGE (3)
		YEAR	SEQUENTIAL NUMBER	REVISION NUMBER	
SALEM GENERATING STATION - UNIT 2	05000311	96	001	00	2 OF 3

TEXT (If more space is required, use additional copies of NRC Form 366A) (17)

PLANT AND SYSTEM IDENTIFICATION

Westinghouse - Pressurized Water Reactor

Sampling and Water Quality System {KN/-}*

*Energy Industry Identification System (EIIS) codes and component function identifier codes appear in the text as {SS/CC}

IDENTIFICATION OF OCCURRENCE

Discovery Date: January 9, 1996

CONDITIONS PRIOR TO OCCURRENCE

The plants were defueled at the time of discovery.

The waste gas analyzer became inoperable per Technical Specifications, which initiated the compensatory daily waste gas sampling and analysis.

DESCRIPTION OF OCCURRENCE

On December 17, 1995, the Chemistry Department initiated compensatory daily Unit 2 waste gas grab sampling and analysis in accordance with Technical Specification 3.3.3.9 after the Unit 2 waste gas analyzer was declared inoperable. On the morning of January 9, 1996, the day shift primary shift technician, who would normally perform the waste gas sampling and analysis, was on authorized absence. This was not noted on the master schedule, so the daily work assignment sheet prepared that day by the senior supervisor still showed the absent primary shift technician as present. The night shift primary shift technician did not perform a person-to-person turnover, but rather provided turnover to the Chemistry Group individuals present that morning. Because the day shift primary shift technician normally leaves the chemistry laboratory area to attend the Operations Department turnover meeting, no Chemistry Department personnel noted his absence. Later that morning, another technician realized that the technician scheduled to perform the waste gas sampling and analysis was absent, and notified a chemistry supervisor. Another technician was reassigned to replace the absent individual. He discovered that the waste gas sample required by technical specifications had not been taken, and he proceeded to obtain one. The time at which this sample was obtained was 85 minutes later than the technical specification surveillance frequency. Sample analysis was then completed satisfactorily within the 4 hour window.

**LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)
TEXT CONTINUATION**

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TEXT (If more space is required, use additional copies of NRC Form 366A) (17)

CAUSE OF OCCURRENCE

The root cause of this occurrence was personnel error. A supervisor in the Chemistry Department failed to provide a technician to perform the analysis procedure. A contributing cause was inadequate turnover within the Chemistry Department.

PRIOR SIMILAR OCCURRENCES

A review of LERs for Salem Units 1 & 2 identified one LER related to late performance of compensatory sampling due to personnel error during the last two years. This is:

LER 311/95-005 "Technical Specification Violation: Failure to analyze second sample with Radiation Monitor Inoperable" identified an occurrence where two independent liquid radwaste samples were not analyzed prior to release due to personnel error.

SAFETY SIGNIFICANCE

The safety significance of this event is low. Technical Specification 3.3.9 requires that a grab sample be taken every 24 hours and then analyzed for oxygen concentration within the following four hours when the waste gas analyzer is inoperable. This ensures that the concentration of gas mixtures contained in the waste gas holdup system is monitored to preclude the buildup of flammable gas mixtures. Sample results on 1/8/96 and 1/9/96 were 0.41% and 0.32% respectively. These values were well below the Technical Specification limit of 2%. The grab sample discussed in this LER was analyzed in 35 minutes. The total time between completion of the analysis of this sample and the taking of the prior sample was 26 hours. Based on the above, the health and safety of the public were not affected.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

1. The immediate corrective action taken was to complete grab sample analysis within the four hour period.
2. Personnel involved in the event have been counseled.
3. A formal Chemistry Department shift turnover process will be proceduralized by February 29, 1996.