



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

Nuclear Business Unit

CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED  
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MAY 30 1996  
LR-E96085

Ms. Laurie Silva  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
Habitat Conservation Branch  
One Blackburn Drive  
Gloucester, MA 01930-2298

Dear Ms. Silva:

**PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY  
SALEM GENERATING STATION, UNIT NOS. 1 AND 2  
DOCKET NOS. 50-272 AND 50-311  
AMENDMENT TO SECTION 7 CONSULTATION, BIOLOGICAL OPINION  
TRASH RACK CLEANING RELIEF**

On June 30, 1995, the National Marine Fisheries Service issued PSE&G relief from daily trash rack cleaning. The cleaning requirement was terminated except for test phases when circulating pumps were operating or when general operations resumed. At this time, PSE&G would like to update the schedule and continue the relief until the startup of Salem Unit 2, due to be on-line in September 1996. Unit 1 is scheduled to be on-line in the second quarter 1997 due to the replacement of the steam generators.

The current circulating pump operating schedule for the summer of 1996 is limited. Salem Unit 2 will be operating one circulating pump until mid-July when additional circulators will be cycled into service to facilitate startup of the unit. Salem Unit 1 currently plans to have no circulating pumps operating until August, when up to one pump will be placed into service.

During the summer of 1995 relief time frame, Salem recovered one dead loggerhead sea turtle while cleaning 22A trash rack, which was an operating circulator pump. The turtle was severed in half and badly decomposed from a possible prop cut.

Due to the limited number of circulating pumps being scheduled to operate this summer and the results of last year, PSE&G requests relief from daily trash rack cleaning. This relief should not jeopardize any endangered or threatened sea turtles or shortnose sturgeon.

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L. Silva  
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MAY 30 1996

If you have any further questions or comments, please contact Robert Boot of my staff at (609) 339-1169.

Sincerely,

*D. R. Powell / gmc*

D. R. Powell  
Manager -  
Licensing and Regulation

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USNRC Senior Resident Inspector