

Public Service
Electric and Gas
Company

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Senior Vice President - Nuclear Engineering

AUG 21 1996

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United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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Washington, DC 20555

Gentlemen:

**10CFR21 INTERIM REPORT, GENERAL ELECTRIC 4 KV MAGNE-BLAST BREAKER
LATCHING MECHANISM PROPS
SALEM GENERATING STATION UNITS 1 AND 2
FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-70 AND DPR-75
DOCKET NOS. 50-272 AND 50-311**

Pursuant to the notification requirements of 10 CFR 21.21(a)(2), Public Service Electric and Gas Company (PSE&G) is providing this interim report regarding chipping of latching mechanism props installed in General Electric 4 kV Magne-Blast circuit breakers, Type AM-4.16-350-2H. PSE&G identified this deviation on June 25, 1996.

During 4 kV breaker testing, chipping was observed on the side edge of props in four spare breakers. The prop functions to latch the breaker closed after a closing demand. No prop failures have occurred. However, an evaluation of the effect of the chipping on the structural integrity of the prop has not been completed.

Two of the affected breakers have been returned to the vendor. The props on these breakers will be removed and will be evaluated metallurgically. The four breakers will not be returned to the plant until the cause for the chipping has been determined and any required corrective actions implemented.

PSE&G's evaluation to date has not identified a substantial safety hazard. The evaluation for reportability in accordance with 10 CFR 21 is scheduled to be completed by October 23, 1996.

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Should you have any questions, please contact us.

Sincerely,



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