

July 15, 1997

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

SUBJECT: COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT NOS. 50-272/97-08 AND 50-311/97-08

Dear Mr. Eliason:

On June 6, 1997, the NRC completed a safety inspection of your Salem 1 and 2 nuclear facility. The enclosed report presents the results of that inspection.

During the period covered by this inspection, your conduct of activities at the Salem facilities was generally characterized by sound engineering practices. We noted continued progress in the improvement of engineering and engineering products. We closed all but two of the remaining technical and programmatic issues that required your resolution and the NRC, Division of Reactor Safety, review prior to the restart of Unit 2. Restart Item III.a.22, Integrated Test Program, and II.45, Containment Fan Cooler Unit Modification to Prevent Water Hammer, will be addressed under separate cover. Your restart action plan for system engineering was effective. Also, you took acceptable actions to address longstanding concerns regarding cable separation, configuration control, and the safety evaluation process.

Your approach to problem resolution has been typically conservative. In the case of the emergency diesel generators beginning to load while the voltage was still very low, you were slow in assessing the pre-modification impact on the vital bus operability and the need for reporting the event. We also noted that, although extensive, the walkdown of cable separation issues was not sufficient to prevent the NRC from identifying additional deviations.

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Mr. Leon R. Eliason

2

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

You need not respond to this letter. Please call me at (610) 337-5376 if you have any questions. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

William H. Ruland, Chief
Electrical Engineering Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 50-272; 50-311

Enclosure: Combined Inspection Report Nos. 50-272/97-08 and 50-311/97-08

cc w/encl:

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E. Simpson, Senior Vice President - Nuclear Engineering
E. Salowitz, Director - Nuclear Business Support
A. F. Kirby, III, External Operations - Nuclear, Delmarva Power & Light Co.
D. Garchow, General Manager - Salem Operations
J. McMahon, Director - Quality Assurance & Nuclear Safety Review
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William Conklin, Public Safety Consultant, Lower Alloways Creek Township
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Mr. Leon R. Eliason

3

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