PSEG

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Nuclear Business Unit

AUG 22 1997

LR-N970540

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
GENERIC LETTER 95-07 - "PRESSURE LOCKING AND THERMAL BINDING OF SAFETY RELATED POWER OPERATED GATE VALVES"
SALEM GENERATING STATION UNITS 1 AND 2
FACILITY OPERATING LICENSES DPR-70 AND DPR-75
DOCKET NOS. 50-272 AND 50-311

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In letter dated June 10, 1997 the NRC staff requested additional information regarding PSE&G's response to Generic Letter 95-07. PSE&G provided the requested information in letter dated July 24, 1997. In this letter PSE&G committed to validate the results of a review completed on the susceptibility of valves to pressure locking and thermal binding during surveillance testing. The attachment to this letter provides the validated results of this review.

Should you have any questions or comments on this transmittal, please contact us.

Sincerely,

D. R. Powell

D. R. Powell
Director -
Licensing & Regulation/Fuels

Attachment

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In response to Generic Letter (GL) 95-07, PSE&G provided information to the NRC for Salem Generating Station in letters dated February 13, August 7 and August 30, 1996. In a letter dated June 10, 1997, the NRC staff requested that additional information be provided. Question #3 of this letter requested that PSE&G provide a schedule for submitting the results of reviews conducted on the susceptibility of valves closed during surveillance testing to pressure locking or thermal binding.

PSE&G provided the requested information in letter dated July 24, 1997. With regard to NRC Question #3, PSE&G committed to provide the validated results of our reviews within 30 days. This letter provides this information for Question #3.

FOLLOW-UP RESPONSE TO QUESTION #3:

The population of normally open, safety-related power-operated gate valves that were previously screened out as not being susceptible to pressure locking or thermal binding based on only having a safety function to close were identified for additional review in response to this question. From this population, each valve (with the two exceptions discussed below) was screened out based on one or more of the following criteria:

- The valve is closed during surveillance testing conducted in modes where the valve has no design safety function to open.

- The valve is closed to perform a stroke time test or remote position indication verification. Due to the short duration the valve is in the closed position, pressure locking and thermal binding are not of concern.

- Applicable Technical Specifications are followed for the train/system while the valve is closed.

Two valves that did not meet these criteria were identified as requiring procedural changes. Procedures for Inservice Testing

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of the centrifugal charging pumps require the Boron Injection Tank (BIT) inlet isolation valves (SJ4 and SJ5) to be closed. If closed under testing conditions, these valves are potentially susceptible to pressure locking. Salem Unit 2 procedures have been revised to maintain these valves open during this surveillance. The BIT outlet isolation valves (SJ12 and SJ13) provide the isolation function and have been modified to preclude pressure locking. Similar procedure changes will be completed for Salem Unit 1 prior to the unit entering Mode 6, Refueling.