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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

MAR 20 1980

Docket No. 50-272

Public Service Electric & Gas Company
ATTN: Mr. F. Schneider
Vice President - Production
80 Park Place
Newark, New Jersey 07101

Gentlemen:

As a result of the NRC resident inspector gaining unimpeded access through an unlocked door into a vital area of the Salem Nuclear Generating Station, Unit 1, on the morning of August 28, 1979, a special inspection was conducted on August 28-30, 1979. Subsequently, on September 30, 1979, the NRC resident inspector again gained unimpeded access through another unlocked door into the same vital area. Additionally, on September 30, 1979, the NRC resident inspector found floor plates removed and the openings unguarded, allowing unimpeded and uncontrolled access to two vital areas. These three items of noncompliance are characterized as violations, the most severe of the NRC noncompliance categories. We consider this lack of access control to demonstrate a significant weakness in the implementation and management of your physical security program.

During the inspection on August 28-30, 1979 and as subsequently confirmed by your Site Security Supervisor during a telephone conversation from our inspector on November 21, 1979, it was learned that certain vital area doors required by your physical security plan to be continuously patrolled, have in fact not been continuously patrolled since February 27, 1979, the date of approval of the Salem Nuclear Generating Station Physical Security Plan. We consider that this failure to continuously patrol also demonstrates a significant weakness in the implementation and management of your physical security program.

A review of the enforcement history relating to security at the Salem Nuclear Generating Station shows that failure to lock vital area doors and failure to control access to vital areas has occurred on six different occasions. The failure to keep the doors locked and to control access to vital areas occurred three times in 1979 and therefore raises serious concern about the management attention given to correct this item of noncompliance that was first brought to your attention during an inspection conducted during April 22 through May 26, 1979.

In light of the seriousness of these noncompliance items and their indication of serious inadequacies in the implementation and management of your physical security program, we propose to impose civil penalties in the cumulative amount of Twenty-three Thousand Dollars for the items of noncompliance set forth in Appendix A to this letter. Appendix B to this letter is a Notice of

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Enclosure Contains 10 CFR 2.790 Material

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Gas Company

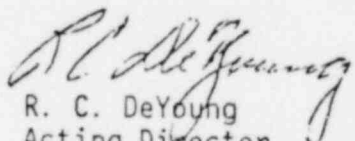
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Proposed Imposition of Civil Penalties. You are required to respond to this letter and in preparing your response you should follow the instructions in Appendices A and B.

In addition to the civil penalty, we are issuing the enclosed Order effective immediately. This Order requires the adoption and implementation of written security procedures requiring the continuous visual surveillance of all interface doors leading to vital areas in Unit 1; review of existing security procedures and controls; and the submission of the written procedures and the results of your review of your existing procedures to the Director of NRC's Region I Office. The Order also requires that you meet with a senior management official of the Office of Inspection and Enforcement on April 18, 1980. While carrying out the provisions of this Order, however, you may make a proposal to the NRC for providing by other means the same level of security as outlined in 10 CFR 73.55.

The information in Appendices A and C concern subject matter which is exempt from disclosure under Section 2.790(d) of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations. Accordingly, the enclosed Appendices A and C and your response to the items listed in Appendix A will not be placed in the Public Document Room and will be disclosed only in accordance with 10 CFR 9.12. A copy of this letter will be placed in the Public Document Room.

Sincerely,


R. C. DeYoung
Acting Director
Office of Inspection
and Enforcement

Enclosures:

1. Appendix A, Notice of Violation (Contains 10 CFR 2.790(d) information)
2. Appendix B, Notice of Proposed Imposition of Civil Penalties
3. Appendix C, Enforcement History
4. Order Modifying License

cc w/o encls:

- F. P. Librizzi, General Manager - Electric Production
- E. N. Schwalje, Manager - Quality Assurance
- H. J. Midura, Manager - Salem Generating Station
- R. L. Mittl, General Manager - Licensing and Environment