

OCT 26 1982

Docket No. 50-311

Public Service Electric and Gas Company
ATTN: Mr. Richard A. Uderitz
Vice President - Nuclear
Mail Code T15A
P. O. Box 570
Newark, New Jersey 07101

Gentlemen:

Subject: Inspection 50-311/82-28

This refers to the special resident safety inspection by Messrs. L. Norrholm and R. Summers on October 6-12, 1982 at the Salem Nuclear Generating Station, Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey. The inspection consisted of document review, interviews, and observation of activities. The findings were discussed with Mr. H. J. Midura of your staff.

An apparent violation of NRC requirements related to isolation of auxiliary feedwater to one of the four Unit 2 steam generators is detailed in the inspection report enclosed with this letter. We consider this apparent violation significant because procedures were in place to detect incorrect valve and equipment alignment and improper tagging applications. In early 1980, as a result of NRC enforcement actions, a system of independent verification was developed to ensure correct systems alignment. About 12 instances of systems misalignment or improper tagging applications have been cited since that time. We are aware that during this period the independent verification procedures have been refined in an attempt to prevent recurrence of these problems. However, the system misalignment on October 4, 1982 (described in the enclosed inspection report) went undetected for 7 hours. A very similar error occurred on August 17, 1982 and was promptly detected by independent verification. Although the recent situation was discovered by a Shift Technical Advisor during a routine walk-through, we are concerned about the apparent disregard for proper adherence to station procedures.

The inattention to established policy and procedures by the plant staff and supervisors' apparent failures to perform periodic surveillance of procedure implementation and effectiveness to ensure continued adherence by the station staff is evidenced by the recurring instances of similar problems.

Therefore, we have scheduled an enforcement conference on November 9, 1982 in the NRC Region I office as discussed in our telephone conversation of October 26, 1982. At this conference you should be prepared to address the aforementioned concerns, as well as the circumstances surrounding the two recent events and the corrective and preventive measures which you have taken or will take to avoid recurrence.

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The October 4 event is under review for consideration of the appropriate enforcement action. We will address this matter in separate correspondence at a later date.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790(a), a copy of this letter and the enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room unless you notify this office, by telephone, within ten days of the date of this letter and submit written application to withhold information contained therein within thirty days of the date of this letter. Such application must be consistent with the requirements of 2.790(b)(1). The telephone notification of your intent to request withholding, or any request for an extension of the 10 day period which you believe necessary, should be made to the Supervisor, Files, Mail and Records, USNRC Region I, at (215) 337-5223.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By: *R. Karmig for*

Richard W. Starostecki, Director
Division of Project and Resident
Programs

Enclosure: NRC Region I Report No. 50-311/82-28

cc w/encl:

R. L. Mittl, General Manager - Corporate QA
H. J. Midura, General Manager - Salem Operations
E. A. Liden, Manager - Nuclear Licensing and Regulation
R. Fryling, Jr., Esquire
Public Document Room (PDR)
Local Public Document Room (LPDR)
Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)
State of New Jersey
NRC Resident Inspector

bcc w/encl:

Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)
Chief, Operational Support Section (w/o encls)
Chief, TIB
Enforcement Specialist, Region I
J. Axelrad, Acting Director of Enforcement, IE
Director, DETP, Region I

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