PSE&G

Public Service Electric and Gas Company P.O. Box E Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey 08038

Salem Generating Station

November 24, 1982

Mr. R. C. Haynes
Regional Administrator
USNRC
Region 1
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

Dear Mr. Haynes:

LICENSE NO. DPR-70
DOCKET NO. 50-272
REPORTABLE OCCURRENCE 82-090/01T

Pursuant to the requirements of Salem Generating Station Unit No. 1 Technical Specifications, Section 6.9.1.8.c, we are submitting Licensee Event Report for Reportable Occurrence 82-090/01T. This report is required within fourteen (14) days of the occurrence.

Sincerely yours,

H. J. Midura
General Manager -
Salem Operations

RF:ks

CC: Distribution

IE22

Report Number: 82-090/01T

Report Date: 11-24-82

Occurrence Date: 11-21-82

Facility: Salem Generating Station Unit 1
Public Service Electric & Gas Company
Hancock's Bridge, New Jersey 08038

IDENTIFICATION OF OCCURRENCE:

Fuel Cladding Rupture - Assembly D-20.

This report was initiated by Incident Report 82-427.

CONDITIONS PRIOR TO OCCURRENCE:

Mode 6 - RX Power 0 % - Unit Load 0 MWe.

DESCRIPTION OF OCCURRENCE:

On November 21, 1982, during routine refueling operations, video inspection of removed fuel assemblies revealed cladding ruptures on an element in Fuel Assembly D-20. The assembly had been in the core for three fuel cycles; it was in Core Location L-3 during the most recent cycle. Following completion of inspection of the assembly, it was placed in Spent Fuel Pit Location E-4.

APPARENT CAUSE OF OCCURRENCE:

The cause of the cladding rupture is not known at this time. A more detailed inspection of the module with the failed element and an investigation of the failure will be conducted by the vendor.

ANALYSIS OF OCCURRENCE:

The fuel cladding is a design feature which insures that radioactive fission products are contained in the fuel elements and not released to the primary coolant or containment atmosphere during normal operation and accidents of moderate or low frequency. The cladding is one of multiple fission product barriers which insure radiation dose to the public in the event of an accident is maintained within the limits of 10CFR100.

Although infrequent and limited failures of the cladding are consistent with fuel design criteria, any rupture possibly constitutes abnormal degradation and is reportable in accordance with Technical Specification 6.9.1.8c.

CORRECTIVE ACTION:

As noted, the assembly involved was transferred to the Spent Fuel Pit. The module will not be utilized in future fuel cycles, a suitable replacement module will be installed in its place. As mentioned, further investigation of the failure is being conducted. A Supplemental Report will be submitted upon final resolution of the problem.

FAILURE DATA:

Westinghouse Electric Corp.
Fuel Assembly

A previous cladding failure was discovered in January of 1982 and is documented in LER 82-05/01X-1.

Prepared By R. Frahm

General Manager -
Salem Operations

SORC Meeting No. 82-106