



Public Service Electric and Gas Company P.O. Box 236 Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey 08038

Nuclear Department

December 19, 1984

Regional Administrator, Region I
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406

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

Gentlemen:

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION
IE BULLETIN 84-03
REFUELING CAVITY WATER SEAL
SALEM GENERATING STATION
UNIT NOS. 1 AND 2
DOCKET NOS. 50-272 AND 50-311

The attached Safety Evaluation Revision addresses the concerns transmitted in your letter, dated December 12, 1984. The revision also incorporates the quantitative test results performed since the original issue of the Safety Evaluation. Although the Safety Evaluation has been revised the conclusions remain the same. There are a number of substantial differences between the inflatable seal design used at Connecticut Yankee's Haddam Neck and that used at the Salem. The differences include seal surface conditions, size of gap-to-seal dimensions, seal material, seating procedures and placement of brackets on top of the seal. Because of these numerous differences, it is concluded that the probability of seal failure at the Salem Station is significantly lower than at Haddam Neck and a gross seal failure is considered highly unlikely to occur. This conclusion has been reinforced through rigorous testing of the seal.

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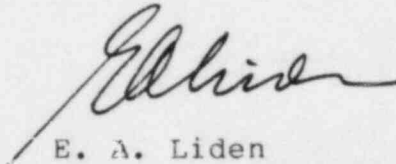
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Although precautions have been taken to assure the reliability of the refueling cavity water seal at the Salem Nuclear Generating Station, the consequences of a seal failure have been evaluated. There are adequate means of detecting a seal failure and subsequently preventing fuel failure through existing signals, procedures and Technical Specifications.

Implementation of the recommended "Integrated Procedure" that addresses the loss of Refueling Cavity Water level will further increase the safety margin.

Should you have any questions concerning the above, please contact us.

Very truly yours,



E. A. Liden
Manager - Nuclear
Licensing and Regulation

Attachment (all)

C Mr. Donald C. Fischer
Licensing Project Manager

Mr. James Linville
Senior Resident Inspector