

**From:** Kim, James  
**Sent:** Monday, May 2, 2022 7:25 AM  
**To:** Thomas, Brian J.  
**Cc:** Montgomery, Richard; Danna, James  
**Subject:** Acceptance Review - Salem 1 and 2 - Request for Relief from ASME Code Defect Removal for Service Water Buried Piping (L-2022-LLR-0040)

Mr. Thomas,

By letter dated April 7, 2022 (Agencywide Documents and Access Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML22097A186), PSEG Nuclear LLC (the licensee) requested NRC approval of a proposed alternative to the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, Section XI, "Rules for Inservice Inspection of Nuclear Power Plant Components," on the basis that removal of the specified defect constitutes a hardship without a compensating increase in quality and safety in accordance with 10 CFR 50.55a(z)(2). Specifically, the proposed relief will allow Salem Units 1 and 2 to repair bell and spigot joints in the buried portions of Service Water System piping in lieu of defect removal requirements in ASME Section XI, IWA 4422.1.

The NRC staff has reviewed your application and concluded that it does provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed relief request in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment. Given the lesser scope and depth of the acceptance review as compared to the detailed technical review, there may be instances in which issues that impact the NRC staff's ability to complete the detailed technical review are identified despite completion of an adequate acceptance review. If additional information is needed, you will be advised by separate correspondence.

Based on the information provided in your submittal, the NRC staff has estimated that this licensing request will take approximately 180 hours to complete. The NRC staff expects to complete this review in approximately 12 months, which is May 2, 2023. If there are emergent complexities or challenges in our review that would cause changes to the initial forecasted completion date or significant changes in the forecasted hours, the reasons for the changes, along with the new estimates, will be communicated during the routine interactions with the assigned project manager.

These estimates are based on the NRC staff's initial review of the application and they could change, due to several factors including requests for additional information, and unanticipated addition of scope to the review. Additional delay may occur if the submittal is provided to the NRC in advance or in parallel with industry program initiatives or pilot applications.

If you have any question, please contact me, James Kim, at [James.Kim@nrc.gov](mailto:James.Kim@nrc.gov) or 301-415-4125.

James Kim, Project Manager  
Branch 1, Division of Operating Reactor Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission



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**From:** Kim, James

**Created By:** James.Kim@nrc.gov

**Recipients:**

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"Danna, James" <James.Danna@nrc.gov>  
Tracking Status: None  
"Thomas, Brian J." <Brian.Thomas@pseg.com>  
Tracking Status: None

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