

November 5, 2001

LICENSEE: PSEG Nuclear LLC

FACILITY: Salem Nuclear Generating Station, Unit Nos. 1 and 2

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF MEETING BETWEEN THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY
COMMISSION STAFF AND PSEG NUCLEAR LLC ON SEPTEMBER 6, 2001

Introduction

On Thursday, September 6, 2001, at 9:30 a.m. a meeting was held between members of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff and representatives of PSEG Nuclear LLC (PSEG), the licensee for the Salem Nuclear Generating Station, Unit Nos. 1 and 2 (Salem). The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the most recent status of PSEG's Electrical Cable Raceway Fire Barrier Project. The meeting was open to interested members of the public, petitioners, intervenors, or other parties to attend as observers pursuant to the "Commission Policy Statement on Staff Meetings Open to the Public" (see 65 FR 56964, dated September 9, 2000). The discussion lasted approximately 2 hours. A list of attendees is provided as Enclosure 1 to the meeting summary.

Background

The September 6, 2001, meeting was scheduled to provide an update to an April 5, 2001, meeting on the same subject. In the April 5, 2001, meeting, PSEG stated that it would install mechanical (piping) cross-ties between the Boric Acid Tanks (BATs), Volume Control Tanks (VCTs), and Refueling Water Storage Tanks (RWSTs), and a power supply cross-tie between the Unit No. 1 Hot Shutdown (HSD) panel and the Unit No. 2 HSD panel. The mechanical cross-ties will provide an additional source for: (1) Reactor Coolant System (RCS) make-up; (2) Reactor Coolant Pumps seal injection; and (3) RCS boration. The HSD panel cross-tie is intended to provide an additional redundant power source for each unit's HSD panel. For additional details on the cross-ties, refer to the meeting summary dated June 26, 2001, (ADAMS Accession No. ML011780101). PSEG maintains that the cross-tie option will reduce the reliance on fire wrap material in its safe shutdown analysis, thus reducing the amount of material that will require replacement, and will improve plant safety according to a risk analysis.

In the April 5, 2001, meeting, the staff questioned PSEG representatives about how a possible lack of a 1-hour fire barrier in the 4160-volt vital switchgear room, 460-volt vital switchgear room, and the 84' level vital pump room would affect compliance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), Part 50, Appendix R, Section III.G.2, and whether these rooms would be reclassified as "Section III.G.3 areas." PSEG indicated that it would take a close look at compliance with these regulations and any associated exemptions to ensure that compliance is achieved upon completion of the project.

Meeting Summary

Following the introduction of participants and observers, the meeting opened with a presentation by PSEG that provided a review of the discussions held on April 5, 2001. In response to the NRC staff's questions from the April meeting on the classification of individual rooms as "III.G.2" or "III.G.3" fire areas, PSEG stated that it took the opportunity between the meetings to review the project's design analysis and licensing basis. During this time, PSEG re-reviewed Salem's safe shutdown analysis. Since this analysis assumes that all unprotected equipment in a given fire area is damaged, PSEG further determined that: (1) an additional mechanical (piping) cross-tie for the Service Water (SW) System, and (2) credit for the repair and/or installation of temporary cables for the SW System would be needed in order for Salem to achieve Cold Shutdown in the event of a fire in certain SW rooms. The staff noted this change to the Electrical Cable Raceway Fire Barrier Project and had no questions.

PSEG continued the meeting with a discussion on the licensing approach currently being contemplated by the licensee. PSEG stated that it intended to classify the portion of the charging system with the new cross-tie as a "normal shutdown" system for Appendix R purposes. This classification was based on PSEG's view that the modified system was comprised of mainly existing plant equipment, and that the initial flow path will be able to be aligned from the Control Room. This meant that the new motor operated valves (MOVs) added to the system would have the necessary controls circuitry added to the Control Room, and that periodic testing of the modified system would be conducted. Under this scheme, the original Salem Unit No. 1 positive displacement pump (PDP) would provide shutdown capability for Salem Unit No. 2, and vice versa. Members of the NRC staff questioned PSEG representatives on how the "normal shutdown" classification could be made since the original purpose of the Salem Unit No. 1 PDP was not to provide shutdown for Unit No. 2. The staff suggested that PSEG look closely at the definition of "alternative shutdown" in Appendix R.

PSEG continued with a similar discussion on its licensing approach for the HSD panel and SW cross-tie systems. The licensee stated that it considers the HSD cross-ties an "alternate shutdown" system, and that the SW cross-tie system was a "normal shutdown" system. PSEG stated that it would further evaluate the proposed Appendix R classification, and take into consideration the comments made by the staff. The meeting concluded, and PSEG stated that an additional follow-up meeting may be desired prior to the end of the calendar year in order to brief the staff on further progress of the Electrical Raceway Fire Barrier Project.

For additional information concerning the meeting and PSEG's Electrical Cable Raceway Fire Barrier Project, please contact me at 301-415-1324.

/RA/

Robert J. Fretz, Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate I
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-272 and 50-311

Enclosures: 1. Meeting Attendees
2. Meeting Handout

cc w/encls: See next page

For additional information concerning the meeting and PSEG's Electrical Cable Raceway Fire Barrier Project, please contact me at 301-415-1324.

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NRR Communications Coord.			

ACCESSION NO. ML012850429

PKG. NO. ML012850403

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NAME	RFretz	TClark	JClifford
DATE	10/29/01	10/29/01	11/1/01

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MEETING ATTENDEES
Salem Nuclear Generating Station
Electrical Cable Raceway Fire Barrier Project Meeting
September 6, 2001

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R. Fretz

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K. Mathur
D. Lounsbury
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Unit Nos. 1 and 2

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