



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I**
2100 RENAISSANCE BOULEVARD, SUITE 100
KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19406-2713

July 30, 2012

Mr. Thomas P. Joyce
President and Chief Nuclear Officer
PSEG Nuclear LLC – N09
P. O. Box 236
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

**SUBJECT: ACTION MATRIX SHIFT ON THE ROP PUBLIC WEBSITE FOR SALEM
NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2 AND HOPE CREEK
GENERATING STATION**

Dear Mr. Joyce:

Effective July 1, 2012, the security cornerstone is integrated into the Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) performance assessment program governed by IMC 0305, "Operating Reactor Assessment Program." Thus security findings and performance indicators (PIs) are now inputs to one Action Matrix that includes all seven cornerstones of the ROP. The purpose of this letter is to inform you that Salem Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1 and 2, and Hope Creek Generating Station will be shown in the degraded cornerstone column of the ROP Action Matrix when the ROP public Web site is updated on August 6, 2012.

On March 20, 2012, the NRC issued a letter (EA-11-269) to PSEG Nuclear LLC, that characterized the final significance determination of one or more greater-than-green inspection findings in the security cornerstone. As detailed in report 05000272/2012201, 05000311/2012201, and 05000354/2012201, dated December 19, 2011, security issues are immediately corrected or compensated for and placed in the licensee's Corrective Action Program, while long term corrective action is being implemented. Because the NRC already identified these greater-than-green findings under the provisions of IMC 0320, "Operating Reactor Security Assessment Program," and is in the process of planning, performing, or completing the supplemental inspection commensurate with the safety significance of the findings, these greater-than-green findings do not represent new performance issues. However, future assessment of any new greater-than-green security findings or performance indicators could result in actual movement in the Action Matrix.

The ROP Web site will indicate security inputs (findings and PIs) that were determined to be of very low significance, i.e., green, and use blue to indicate greater-than-green (i.e. white, yellow, or red) security inputs. Not specifying the actual color of greater-than-green security inputs is consistent with current Commission policy. Similarly, specific information about all security performance deficiencies will remain non-publicly available, consistent with current Commission policy.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Please contact Art Burritt at 610-337-5069 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Darrell J. Roberts
Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos. 50-272, 50-311, 50-354
License Nos. DPR-70, DPR-75, NPF-57

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