



**PSEG**

*Nuclear LLC*

EPP 5.4.2 Appendix B

LR-E14-0060

**APR 10 2014**

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
ATTN: Document Control Desk  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED  
ARTICLE NUMBER: 7011 3500 0000 5084 7946

SUBJECT: **REPORT OF IMPINGEMENT OF SHORTNOSE STURGEON  
SALEM GENERATING STATION UNIT NO. 1  
DOCKET NO. 50-272**

The Nuclear Environmental Event Report, "Report of Impingement of Shortnose Sturgeon" is being submitted pursuant to the requirements of Section 5.4.2 of Appendix B, Environmental Protection Plan, to the Operating License for the Salem Generating Station, PSEG Nuclear LLC (PSEG).

Please find enclosed a letter and (1) attachment with further information regarding this impingement event.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Kenneth Strait, Manager – Biological Programs at (856) 339-3929.

Sincerely,

Lawrence M. Wagner  
Plant Manager - Salem  
PSEG Nuclear LLC

Attachments (2)

IE77  
NRR

## REPORT OF IMPINGEMENT OF SHORTNOSE STURGEON

In accordance with Section 5.4.2 of Appendix B, Environmental Protection Plan, to the Operating License for the Salem Generating Station, PSEG Nuclear LLC (PSEG) hereby transmits notification of a nonroutine event, and documents the occurrence and removal of a shortnose sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*) from the Salem Generating Station circulating water intake structure trash bars.

Consultation pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) between NRC and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on the effects of the operation of Salem Station on threatened and endangered species has been ongoing since 1979. The most recent revision to the Biological Opinion and Incidental Take Statement issued in January 1999 exempts the specified annual take of shortnose sturgeon and sea turtles. In advance of relicensing for Salem Station, consultation pursuant to Section 7 of the ESA between NRC and NMFS was reinitiated in 2009. On April 6, 2012, the NMFS listed five Distinct Population Segments of Atlantic sturgeon as threatened or endangered under the ESA. In May 2012, NRC requested consultation on the effects of the continued operation of Salem Station on Atlantic sturgeon. The NMFS issued a draft Biological Opinion and Incidental Take Statement (ITS) in July 2012 that, when finalized, will authorize a specified incidental take of both Atlantic sturgeon and shortnose sturgeon associated with operation of the Salem Station circulating water intake system.

Pursuant to Section 5.4.2 of the Environmental Protection Plan for Salem Station, nonroutine events which require reporting to other federal agencies shall be reported in accordance with the other agencies' reporting requirements. Accordingly, enclosed please find two (2) attachments. Attachment 1 provides the information requested by the NMFS in Appendix II to the current ITS and in Appendix B, Part 2, to the revised draft ITS. Attachment 2 is a copy of a Sturgeon Salvage Form verbally requested by the NMFS.

There are no commitments contained in this letter.

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Salem Commitment Coordinator  
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## ATTACHMENT 1 (Sturgeon)

Observer's full name: Michael A. Pego (PSEG Environmental Affairs Coordinator)

Reporter's full name: Michael A. Pego

Species Identification (Key attached): Shortnose Sturgeon (Acipenser brevirostrum)

Site of Impingement (Unit 1 or 2, CWS or DWS, Bay #, etc.): SGS Unit 1; CWI 13A

Date animal observed: 3/20/14 Time animal observed: 09:30am

Date animal collected: 3/20/14 Time animal collected: 09:30am

Date rehab facility contacted: \_\_\_\_\_ Time rehab facility contacted: \_\_\_\_\_

Date animal picked up: \_\_\_\_\_ Time animal picked up: \_\_\_\_\_

Environmental conditions at time of observation (i.e., tidal stage, weather):

Air Temp.- 5.0°C; Sal.- 7.0ppt; wind - SW; sky - partly cloudy; wave- slight; tide- Ebb slack (88.5ft)

Date and time of last inspection of screen: 3/20/2014 at 01:47am

Water temperature (°C) at site and time of observation: 5.0°C

Number of pumps operating at time of observation: Unit 1 6 Unit 2 6

Average percent of power generating capacity achieved per unit at time of observation:

Unit 1 100 Unit 2 100

Average percent of power generating capacity achieved per unit over the 48 hours previous to observation:

Unit 1 100 Unit 2 100

### Sturgeon Information:

Species Shortnose Sturgeon (Acipenser brevirostrum)

Fork length (or total length) 635mm(FL)/673mm(TL) Weight Not measured

### Condition of specimen/description of animal

Live specimen retrieved by Salem Yard Crew during routine trash rack cleaning at Salem CWIB. Data collection was completed by PSEG Nuclear Environmental Affairs representative. Except for some minor damage to the left side of the body, specimen was found to be in good health. After processing, specimen was released back to the Delaware River via the Detritus Discharge Pipe at 09:48am.

Fish Decomposed: ☒ NO SLIGHTLY MODERATELY SEVERELY

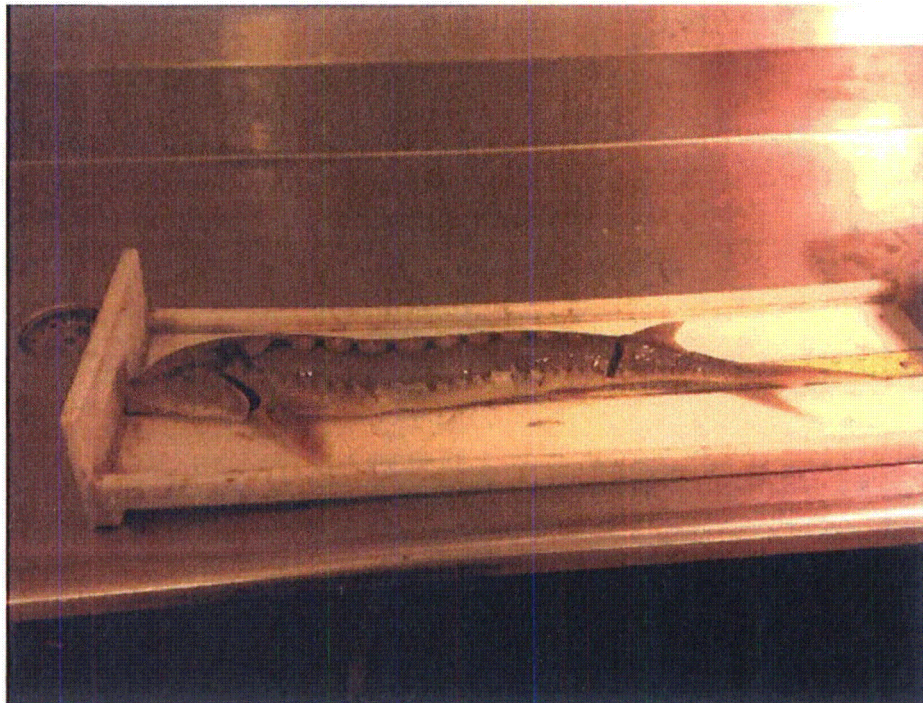
Fish tagged: YES ☒ NO Please record all tag numbers. Tag # \_\_\_\_\_

Photograph attached: ☒ YES / NO

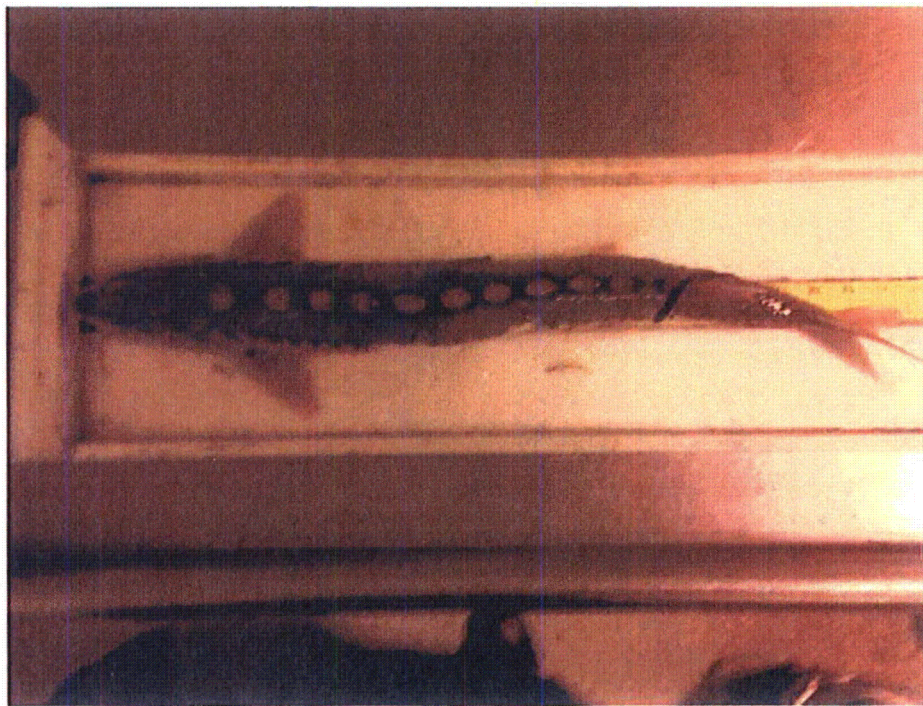
(please label species, date, geographic site and vessel name on back of photograph)



ATTACHMENT 1 (Sturgeon) continued  
Photographs



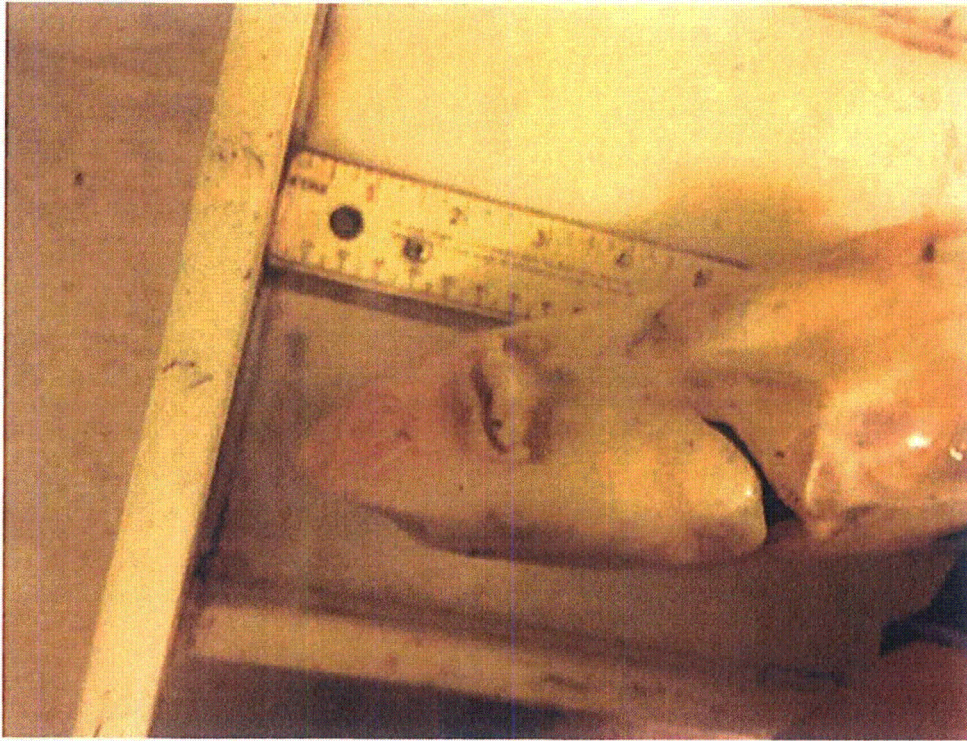
View showing size and overall condition of the live Shortnose Sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*), retrieved on 03/20/14, at 09:30, by Salem Yard Crew personnel during routine trash rack cleaning at the Salem CWIB. Despite some minor damage, which included two large indentations located on the left side of the body, the specimen was in overall good health (03/20/14).



A dorsal view of the same specimen (3/20/14).



ATTACHMENT 1 (Sturgeon) continued  
Photographs



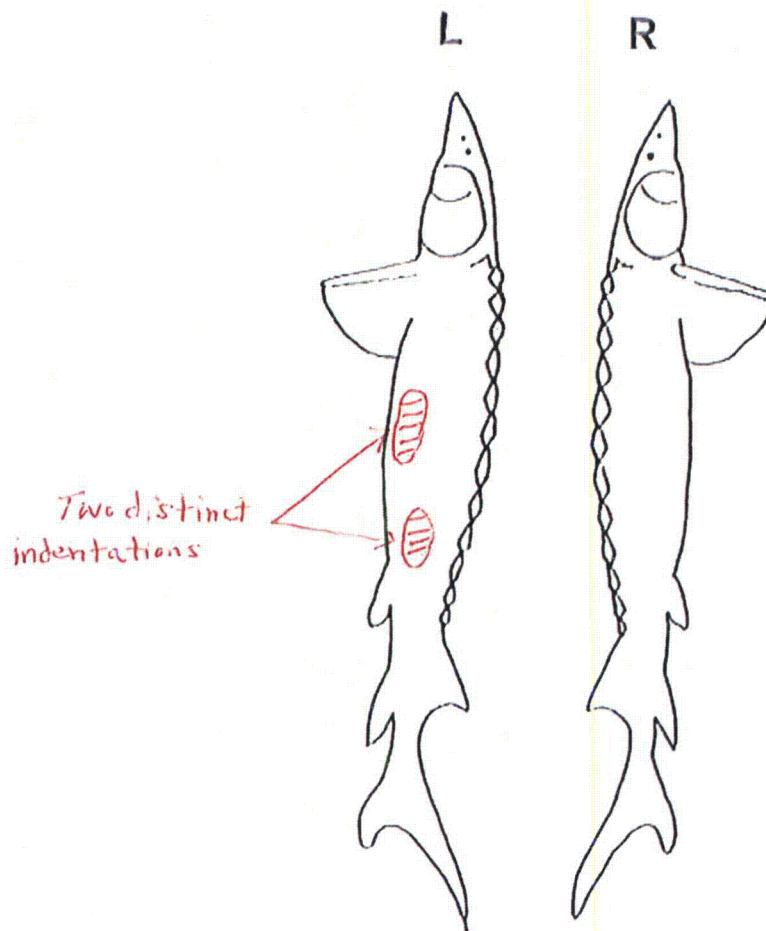
Ventral view of the specimen, showing the shortened rostrum and providing an indication of the large mouth size (3/20/14).



A close-up view of the left side of the specimen, which shows indentations along the surface of the skin. The skin did not show evidence of being broken, but several scutes appear missing. This damage may be scarring related to an older injury (3/20/14).

### ATTACHMENT 1 (Sturgeon) continued

Draw wounds, abnormalities, tag locations on diagram and briefly describe below



#### Description of fish condition:

Specimen was alive at the time of retrieval by Salem Yard Crew. During processing, specimen was observed to have two distinct indentations on the left side of its body. The surface skin was not broken, and no evidence of bruising was observed (refer to photographs). After processing, specimen was released back to the Delaware River at 09:48am. The New Jersey DEP was notified of the collection at 10:05am and the National Marine Fisheries Service was notified at 10:08am.