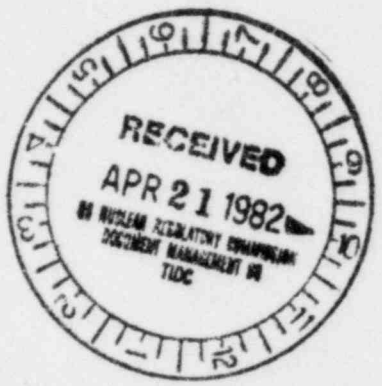
PSE&G

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

Salem Generating Station

April 2, 1982



Mr. R. C. Haynes
Regional Administrator
USNRC
Region 1
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

Dear Mr. Haynes

LICENSE NO. DPR-70
DOCKET NO. 50-272
REPORTABLE OCCURRENCE 81-120/03X-1
SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT

Pursuant to the requirements of Salem Generating Station Unit No. 1 Technical Specifications, Section 6.9.1.9.b, we are submitting supplemental Licensee Event Report for Reportable Occurrence 81-120/03X-1.

Sincerely yours,

H. J. Midura
General Manager -
Salem Operations

FD:ks

CC: Distribution

Report Number: 81-120/03X-1

Report Date: 04-02-82

Occurrence Date: 12-22-81

Facility: Salem Generating Station, Unit 1
Public Service Electric & Gas Company
Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey 08038

IDENTIFICATION OF OCCURRENCE:

Boric Acid Storage Tank Level Indicators - Nitrogen Header Pressure Low.

This report was initiated by Incident Report 81-510.

CONDITIONS PRIOR TO OCCURRENCE:

Mode 1 - Rx Power 66% - Unit Load 700 MWe

DESCRIPTION OF OCCURRENCE:

On December 22, 1981, the bezel indicators for the Boric Acid Storage Tank (BAST) levels dropped to a 10% reading due to loss of nitrogen header pressure, caused by depletion of the low pressure nitrogen supply. At 1415 hours No. 11 and 12 BAST were declared inoperable and Action Statements 3.1.2.8.a and 3.3.3.7.a table 3.3-11b, Action 2 were entered.

This occurrence constituted operation in a degraded mode in accordance with Technical Specification 6.9.1.9.b.

DESIGNATION OF APPARENT CAUSE OF OCCURRENCE:

Loss of the BAST level was caused by depletion of the low pressure nitrogen supply.

ANALYSIS OF OCCURRENCE:

Technical Specification 3.1.2.8.a requires:

> With the boric acid storage system inoperable, restore the storage system to operable status within 72 hours or be in at least hot standby within the next 6 hours and borated to a shutdown margin equivalent to at least 1% WK/K at 200oF.

Technical Specification 3.3.3.7.a table 3.3-11b Action 2 requires:

> With the number of operable accident monitoring channels less than the minimum number of channels shown in table 3.3-11b, restore the inoperable channels to operable status within 48 hours or be in hot shutdown within the next 12 hours.

CORRECTIVE ACTION:

Because the normal nitrogen supply tank was depleted, the shift supervisor switched the supply to the backup tank which had a pressure of 50 PSIG. The BAST level indicators were restored, but due to the low nitrogen pressure, were considered unreliable. The high pressure nitrogen backup supply was then connected through a regulator to the indicator bubblers. At 1835 hours, proper BAST level indication was restored, the BAST's were declared operable, and Action Statements 3.1.2.8.a and 3.3.3.7.a table 3.3-11b Action 2 were terminated.

Subsequently, the low pressure nitrogen tanks were refilled and the system was restored to the normal lineup.

An instruction was issued to all shifts delineating the importance of proper low pressure nitrogen management and the necessity to reorder nitrogen in a timely manner.

FAILURE DATA:

Low Pressure Nitrogen Supply

Prepared By F. Dickey

General Manager -
Salem Operations

SORC Meeting No. 82-07