



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20556-0001

June 24, 1994

MEMORANDUM FOR:

The Chairman  
Commissioner Rogers  
Commissioner Remick  
Commissioner de Planque

FROM:

James M. Taylor  
Executive Director for Operations

SUBJECT:

CONDUCTING AN OPEN ENFORCEMENT CONFERENCE WITH PUBLIC  
SERVICE ELECTRIC & GAS CO. (SALEM)

The purpose of this memorandum is to notify the Commission of the staff's intent to conduct an open enforcement conference with the Public Service Electric & Gas Co. (licensee) for apparent violations recently identified at the licensee's Salem 1 facility following an April 7, 1994 reactor trip.

On June 23, 1992, the Commission approved a policy statement implementing a 2-year trial program to allow selected enforcement conferences to be open to attendance by all members of the general public. One of the provisions of the trial program is that open enforcement conferences are to be selected on a random basis. Under the open enforcement conference trial program random selection procedures, the enforcement conference for the Salem matter would not be open. However, the Salem facility has had long-standing performance problems, has been the subject of four Augmented Inspection Team (AIT) inspections conducted within the last four years, and received a Notice of Violation and Proposed Imposition of Civil Penalty for \$50,000 in February 1994. Most recently, the NRC dispatched an AIT to follow-up on the April 7 reactor trip resulting from grass fouling of the intake and the subsequent performance problems associated with the event. As a result, the staff perceives that there is substantial public interest in the performance problems and in the NRC's followup actions related to the April 7, 1994 event, and it is the staff's view that it would be appropriate to conduct an open enforcement conference on this matter, even though the enforcement conference for this action would not be open under the trial program procedures.

Accordingly, this is to advise the Commission that the staff intends to deviate from the open enforcement conference trial program procedures and conduct an open enforcement conference for the Salem matter, unless, within five business days of the date of this memorandum, the Commission directs otherwise.

  
James M. Taylor  
Executive Director for Operations

cc: SECY  
OGC  
OCA  
OPA

10/29

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