

Public Service
Electric and Gas
Company

Corbin A. McNeill, Jr.
Vice President -
Nuclear

Public Service Electric and Gas Company P.O. Box 236, Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08035 609 339-4800

October 25, 1985

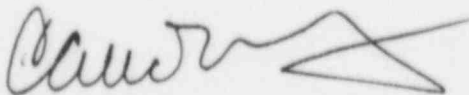
Dr. Thomas E. Murley, Regional Administrator
Region 1
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Dear Dr. Murley:

SALEM GENERATING STATION
UNIT NO. 2
DOCKET NO. 50-311
REPORT OF IMPINGEMENT OF LOGGERHEAD SEA TURTLE
SEPTEMBER 30, 1985

This report is being submitted pursuant to the requirements of Salem Unit 2 Environmental Technical Specifications, Sections 4.1.1. and 5.4.2.a, b and c. This report is required within thirty (30) days of discovery.

Sincerely,



Attachment

C Mr. Donald C. Fischer
Licensing Project Manager

Mr. Thomas J. Kenny
Senior Resident Inspector

Mr. Richard Delgado
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

Mr. Douglas Beach
National Marine Fisheries Service

SOR MEETING #85-147

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REPORT DATE: October 15, 1985

OCCURRENCE DATE: September 30, 1985

FACILITY: Salem Generating Station, Units 1 and 2
Public Service Electric and Gas Company
Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey 08038

IDENTIFICATION OF OCCURRENCE

Impingement of an Atlantic loggerhead (Caretta caretta) sea turtle on the Circulating Water System (CWS) intake trash bars. The Atlantic loggerhead is federally listed as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended.

CONDITIONS PRIOR TO OCCURRENCE

Unit 1, 100% power; Unit 2, 100% power

DESCRIPTION OF OCCURRENCE

On September 30, 1985, at 1100 hours, an Atlantic loggerhead turtle was found impinged on the trash bars of the CWS intake. Both Units were at full power and all circulating pumps were in operation at the time the turtle was found. The turtle had been dead for some time prior to impingement. It has two deep slashes in its carapace indicative of a ship propeller cut. The specimen had a carapace length and width of 52 and 43 cm, respectively. Weight was estimated to be 45 pounds. In accordance with usual procedure, the turtle was removed by a representative of the Marine Mammal Stranding Center (MMSC) of Brigantine, New Jersey, for autopsy and disposal. The Senior Shift Supervisor and the following agencies were notified of the event on September 30, 1985:

Nuclear Regulatory Commission (Resident Inspector)

National Marine Fisheries Service

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

N.J. Department of Environmental Protection

DE Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control

APPARENT CAUSE OF OCCURRENCE

Sea turtles are a summer migrant, common to Delaware Bay. Small numbers typically occur in the lower Delaware River near Salem during July through September. Past experience indicates that healthy sea turtles are usually able to avoid the approach velocity of the CWS intake, although occasionally one will become impinged on the trash bars.

ANALYSIS OF OCCURRENCE

The CWS intake is monitored for the accumulation of debris, which is periodically removed. Any turtles which are observed impinged against the trash bars are recovered immediately. Between 1979 and present, a total of 23 sea turtles have been collected at or in the immediate vicinity of the plant. Of these, eight (35%) were Atlantic ridleys and 15 (65%) were Atlantic loggerheads. Of the total turtles collected, 15 (65%) were dead when recovered.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

The trash bars are observed at least once per 8 hour shift and cleaned at least once per day. Any sea turtles observed on the trash bars are removed immediately. Resuscitation will be attempted if the turtle is not unquestionably dead. In accordance with standard procedure, all specimens will be held under appropriate conditions and turned over to the Marine Mammal Stranding Center.

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