

Appendix D

State Historic Preservation Officer Correspondence

Hope Creek Generating Station Environmental Report

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PSEG Nuclear LLC
P.O. Box 236, Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey 08038-0236



March 4, 2009

LR-E09-060

Daniel Saunders, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Natural and Historic Resources
Historic Preservation Office
P.O. Box 404
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0404

SUBJECT: Salem and Hope Creek Generating Stations License Renewal
Request for Information on Historic and Archaeological Resources

Dear Mr. Saunders:

In 2009, PSEG Nuclear plans to apply to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for renewal of the operating licenses for Salem and Hope Creek Generating Stations (referred to respectively as Salem and HCGS), which are located on adjacent sites within a 740-acre parcel of property owned by PSEG Nuclear on the southern end of Artificial Island in Lower Alloways Creek Township, Salem County, New Jersey. The existing licenses for the Salem Units 1 and 2 were issued for 40-year terms that expire in 2016 and 2020, respectively. The operating license for the single HCGS unit was also issued for a 40-year term that expires in 2026. License renewal would extend the operating period of each reactor for an additional 20 years.

The NRC requires that the license renewal applications for Salem and HCGS include environmental reports assessing potential environmental impacts from operation during the license renewal terms. One of these potential environmental impacts would be the effect license renewal activities on historic or archaeological resources located on the Salem and HCGS sites and transmission line corridors routed to connect the plants to the existing transmission system. Accordingly, the NRC requires that the environmental report for each license renewal application assess such a potential effect (10 CFR 51.53). Later, during its review of the license renewal environmental reports pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the NRC will consult with your office in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 USC 470), and Federal Advisory Council on Historic Preservation regulations (36 CFR 800).

I am contacting you now in order to obtain input regarding issues that may need to be addressed in the Salem and HCGS license renewal environmental reports, and to help me identify any information your staff believes would be helpful to expedite NRC's review.

Beginning early in the twentieth century, Artificial Island was created by placing dredge spoils within a diked area established by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on the eastern shore of the Delaware River. The 1,500-acre island is low and flat with an average elevation of approximately 9 ft above mean sea level (msl) and a maximum elevation of approximately 18 ft msl. Habitat surrounding the PSEG-owned property on Artificial Island can best be characterized as tidal marsh and grassland with some upland woodland vegetation. It is low quality for wildlife and is not an important natural resource area. Artificial Island is located approximately 18 miles southeast of Wilmington, Delaware (see enclosed Figure 1). Philadelphia is about 30 miles and Salem, New Jersey, is 7.5 miles northeast of Artificial Island.

There are three transmission corridors containing four 500-kV transmission lines that connect the Salem and HCGS sites to the regional electricity grid (see enclosed Figure 2). These transmission corridors are considered by the NRC to be within the scope of its environmental reviews for the Salem and HCGS license renewals. In New Jersey, they are owned and maintained by Public Service Electric and Gas Company (PSE&G) (a subsidiary of Public Service Enterprise Group, which also owns PSEG Nuclear). In Delaware, a single line is owned and maintained by Pepco (a regulated electric utility that is a subsidiary of Pepco Holdings, Inc.). The total length of all three corridors is approximately 106 miles, which cross Camden, Gloucester, and Salem Counties in New Jersey, and New Castle County in Delaware. All corridors traverse local marshland (adjacent to the Salem and HCGS sites), as well as agricultural and forested lands located away from the sites. Each corridor is 350 feet wide, except for one, which narrows to 200 feet for approximately 8 miles. One line crosses the Delaware River north of the Salem and HCGS sites and extends into Delaware.

Using the National Register Information System (NRIS) on-line database, PSEG Nuclear has identified six sites currently listed on the National Register of Historic Places that are located in Salem County, New Jersey within a six-mile radius of Salem and HCGS (see enclosed Table 1). No archaeological or historic sites are known to be located within the transmission corridors.

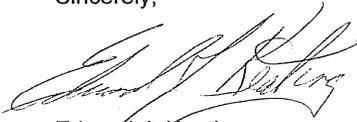
PSEG Nuclear does not expect Salem or HCGS operations during the license renewal terms (an additional 20 years) to adversely affect archaeological or historic resources at the station sites, the immediate environs, or the transmission line corridors because license renewal will not alter current operations. No expansion of existing facilities is planned, and no structural modifications or other refurbishments have been identified that are necessary to

support license renewal. Maintenance activities during the license renewal term would be restricted to previously disturbed areas. No additional land-disturbance is anticipated in support of license renewal. Both PSE&G and Pepco have established maintenance procedures for transmission corridors that involve minimal land disturbance and are unlikely to result in inadvertent encounters with potential historic or archaeological sites.

After your review of the information provided in this letter, I would appreciate your sending a letter detailing any concerns you may have about historic/archaeological properties in the area of the Salem and HCGS sites and the associated transmission corridors, or alternatively, confirming my conclusion that operation of Salem and HCGS over the license renewal terms would have no effect on known historic or archaeological properties in New Jersey. PSEG Nuclear will include copies of this letter and your response in the environmental reports that will be submitted to the NRC as part of the Salem and HCGS license renewal applications.

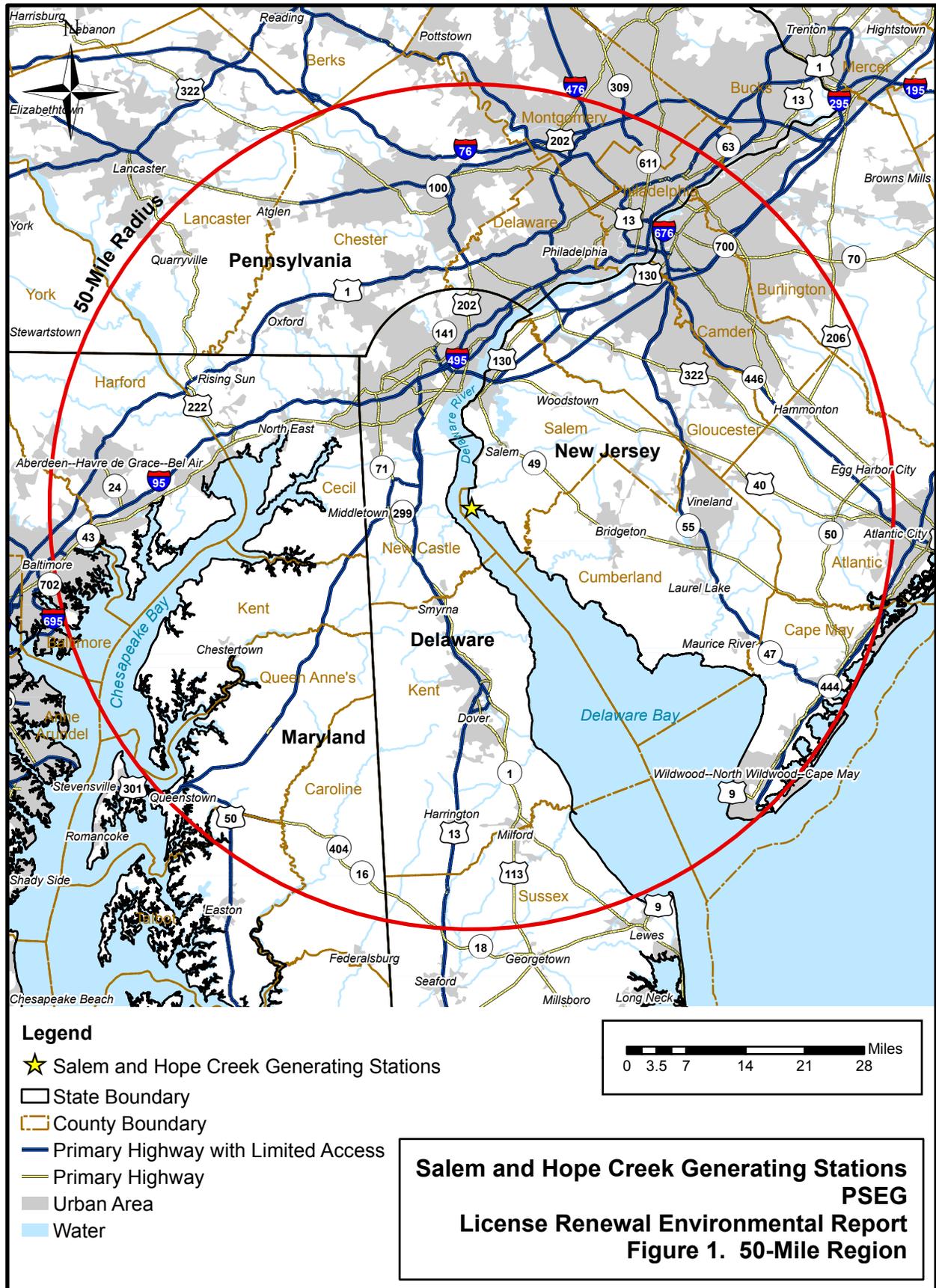
Please do not hesitate to call me at 856-339-7902, if there are questions or you need additional information to complete a review of the proposed action. Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Edward J. Keating
Sr. Environmental Advisor

Enclosures: Figure 1 – Fifty-mile region
Figure 2 – Transmission lines associated with Salem and HCGS
Table 1 – Sites Listed on the National Register of Historic Places
within a 6-mile Radius of Salem and Hope Creek Generating
Stations



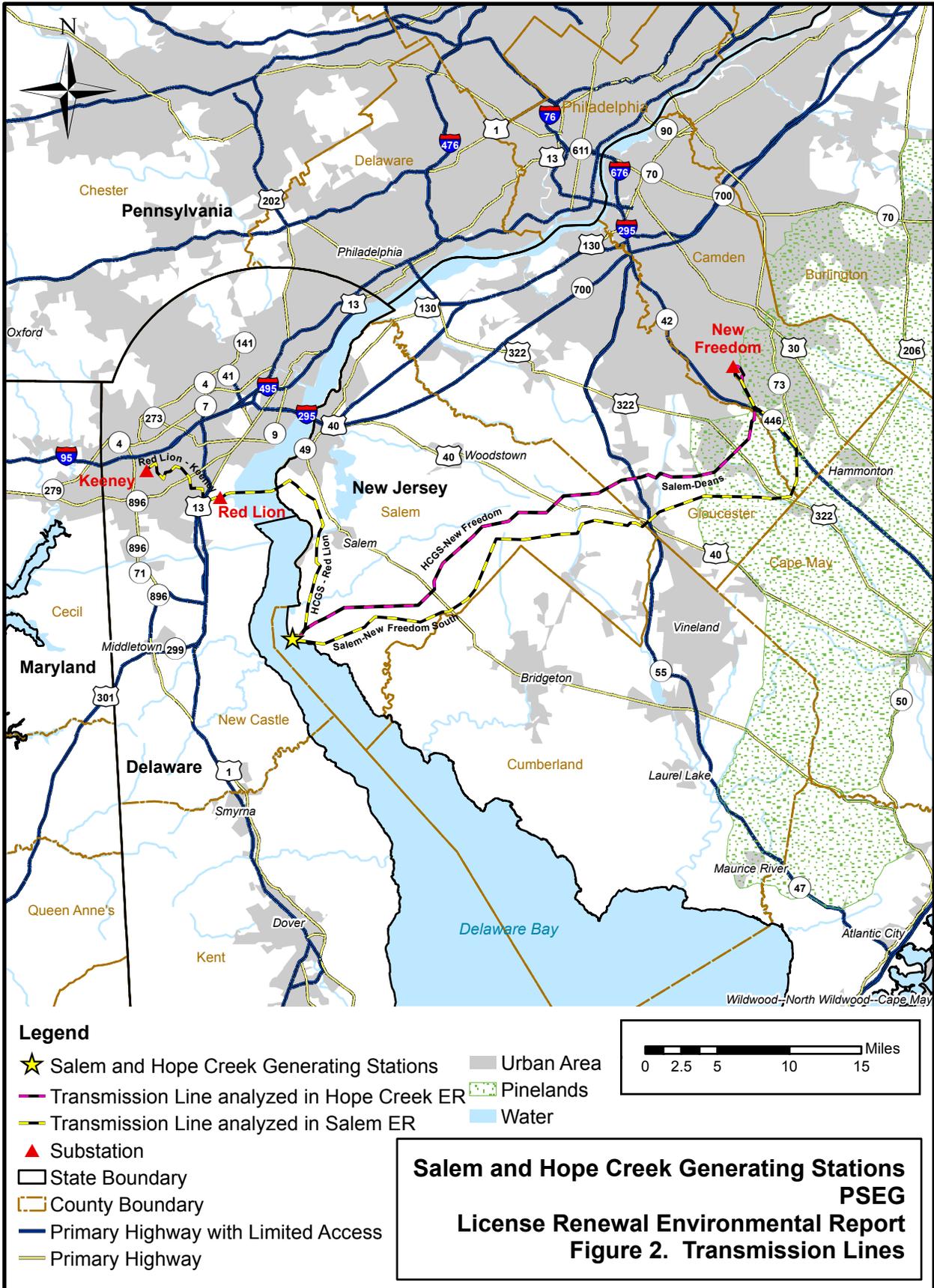


Table 1. Sites Listed on the National Register of Historic Places within a 10-km (6-mi) Radius of Salem Generating Station

Resource Name	Address	City	Distance (km [mi]) from Station
Salem County, New Jersey			
Allows Creek Friends Meetinghouse	Buttonwood Avenue, 150 ft. West of Main Street	Hancock's Bridge	8 (5)
Hancock House	3 Front Street	Hancock's Bridge	8 (5)
Holmes, Benjamin, House	West of Salem on Fort Elfsborg-Hancock's Bridge Road	Salem	10 (6)
Nicholson, Abel and Mary, House	Junction of Hancocks Branch and Fort Elfsborg Road, Elsinsboro Township	Salem	8 (5)
Nicholson, Sarah and Samuel, House	2 miles South of Salem on Amwellbury Road	Salem	10 (6)
Ware, Joseph, House	134 Poplar Street	Hancock's Bridge	6 (4)
New Castle County, Delaware			
Ashton Historic District	North of Port Penn on Thornton Road	Port Penn	8 (5)
Augustine Beach Hotel	South of Port Penn on DE 9	Port Penn	6 (4)
Cleaver House	Off Biddle's Corner Road	Port Penn	10 (6)
Dilworth House	Off DE 9	Port Penn	8 (5)
Gordon, J.M., House	Route 44	Odessa	8 (5)
Green Meadow	Thomas Landing Road (DE 440), Appoquinimink Hundred	Odessa	6 (4)
Grose, Robert, House	1000 Port Penn Road	Port Penn	8 (5)
Hart House	East of Taylors Bridge on DE 453	Taylor's Bridge	5 (3)
Hazel Glen	West of Port Penn on DE 420	Port Penn	8 (5)
Higgins, S., Farm	Route 423	Odessa	8 (5)
Johnson Home Farm	Co. Road 453 East of Junction with DE 9, Blackbird Hundred	Taylor's Bridge	6 (4)
Liston House	East of Taylors Bridge on DE 453	Taylor's Bridge	6 (4)
Misty Vale	Route 423	Odessa	10 (6)
Port Penn Historic District	DE 9	Port Penn	6 (4)
Reedy Island Range Rear Light	Junction of DE 9 and Road 453	Taylor's Bridge	8 (5)
Thomas, David W., House	326 Thomas Landing Road, Appoquinimink Hundred	Odessa	8 (5)
Vandegrift, J., House	Route 44	Odessa	8 (5)

PSEG Nuclear LLC
P.O. Box 236, Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey 08038-0236



March 4, 2009

LR-E09-058

Timothy A. Slavin, State Historic Preservation Officer
Department of the State of Delaware
Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs
State Historic Preservation Office
21 The Green
Dover, Delaware 19901

SUBJECT: Salem and Hope Creek Generating Stations License Renewal
Request for Information on Historic and Archaeological Resources

Dear Mr. Slavin:

In 2009, PSEG Nuclear plans to apply to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for renewal of the operating licenses for Salem and Hope Creek Generating Stations (referred to respectively as Salem and HCGS), which are located on adjacent sites within a 740-acre parcel of property owned by PSEG Nuclear on the southern end of Artificial Island in Lower Alloways Creek Township, Salem County, New Jersey. The existing licenses for Salem Units 1 and 2 were issued for 40-year terms that expire in 2016 and 2020, respectively. The operating license for the single HCGS unit was also issued for a 40-year term that expires in 2026. License renewal would extend the operating period of each reactor for an additional 20 years.

The NRC requires that the license renewal applications for Salem and HCGS include environmental reports assessing potential environmental impacts from operation during the license renewal terms. One of these potential environmental impacts would be the effect of license renewal activities on historic or archaeological resources located on the Salem and HCGS sites and transmission line corridors connecting the plants to the existing transmission system. Accordingly, the NRC requires that the environmental report for each license renewal application assess such a potential effect (10 CFR 51.53). Later, during its review of the license renewal environmental reports pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the NRC will consult with your office in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 USC 470), and Federal Advisory Council on Historic Preservation regulations (36 CFR 800).

95-2168 REV. 7/99

I am contacting you now in order to obtain input regarding issues that may need to be addressed in the Salem and HCGS license renewal environmental reports, and to help me identify any information your staff believes would be helpful to expedite NRC's consultation.

Beginning early in the twentieth century, Artificial Island was created by placing dredge spoils within a diked area established by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on the eastern shore of the Delaware River. The 1,500 acre island is low and flat with an average elevation of approximately 9 ft above mean sea level (msl) and a maximum elevation of approximately 18 ft msl. Habitat surrounding the PSEG-owned property on Artificial Island can best be characterized as tidal marsh and grassland with some upland woodland vegetation. It is low quality for wildlife and is not an important natural resource area. Artificial Island is located approximately 18 miles southeast of Wilmington, Delaware (see enclosed Figure 1). Philadelphia is about 30 miles and Salem, New Jersey, is 7.5 miles northeast of Artificial Island.

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Using the National Register Information System (NRIS) on-line database, PSEG Nuclear has identified 19 sites currently listed on the National Register of Historic

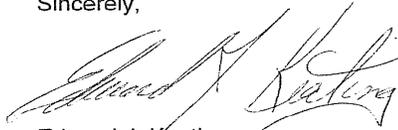
Places that are located in New Castle County, Delaware within a six-mile radius of Salem and HCGS (see enclosed Table 1). No archaeological or historic sites are known to be located within the HCGS-Red Lion and Red Lion-Keeney transmission corridor.

PSEG Nuclear does not expect Salem or HCGS operations during the license renewal terms (an additional 20 years) to adversely affect archaeological or historic resources at the station sites, the immediate environs, or the transmission line corridors because license renewal will not alter existing operations. No expansion of existing facilities is planned, and no structural modifications or other refurbishments have been identified that are necessary to support license renewal. Maintenance activities during the license renewal term would be restricted to previously disturbed areas. No additional land-disturbance is anticipated in support of license renewal. Both PSE&G and Pepco have established maintenance procedures for transmission corridors that involve minimal land disturbance and are unlikely to result in inadvertent encounters with potential historic or archaeological sites.

After your review of the information provided in this letter, I would appreciate your sending a letter detailing any concerns you may have about historic/archaeological properties in the area of the Salem and HCGS sites and the HCGS-Red Lion and Red Lion-Keeney transmission corridors, or alternatively, confirming the conclusion that operation of Salem and HCGS over the license renewal terms would have no effect on known historic or archaeological properties in Delaware. PSEG Nuclear will include copies of this letter and your response in the environmental reports that will be submitted to the NRC as part of the Salem and HCGS license renewal applications.

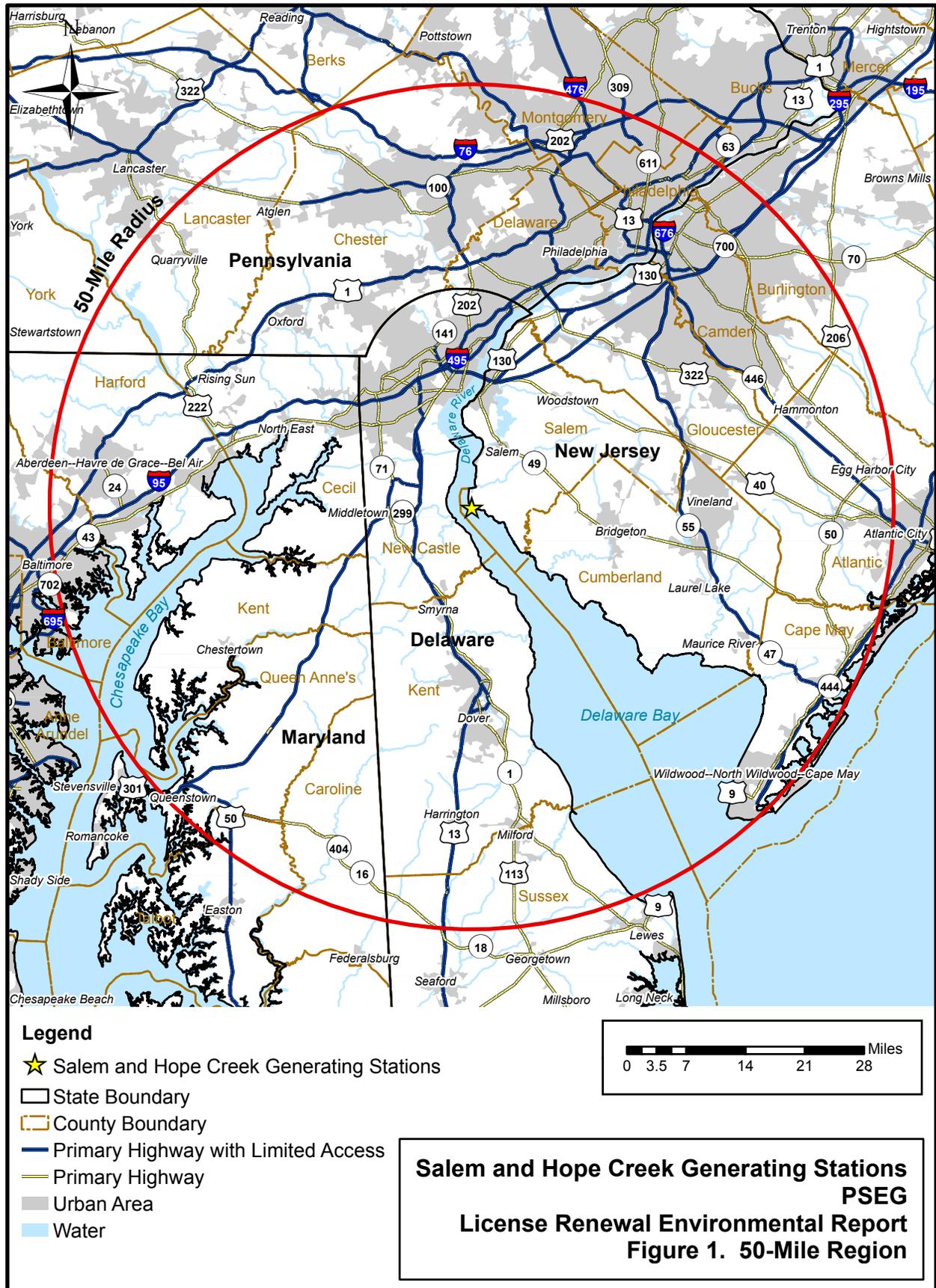
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Edward J. Keating
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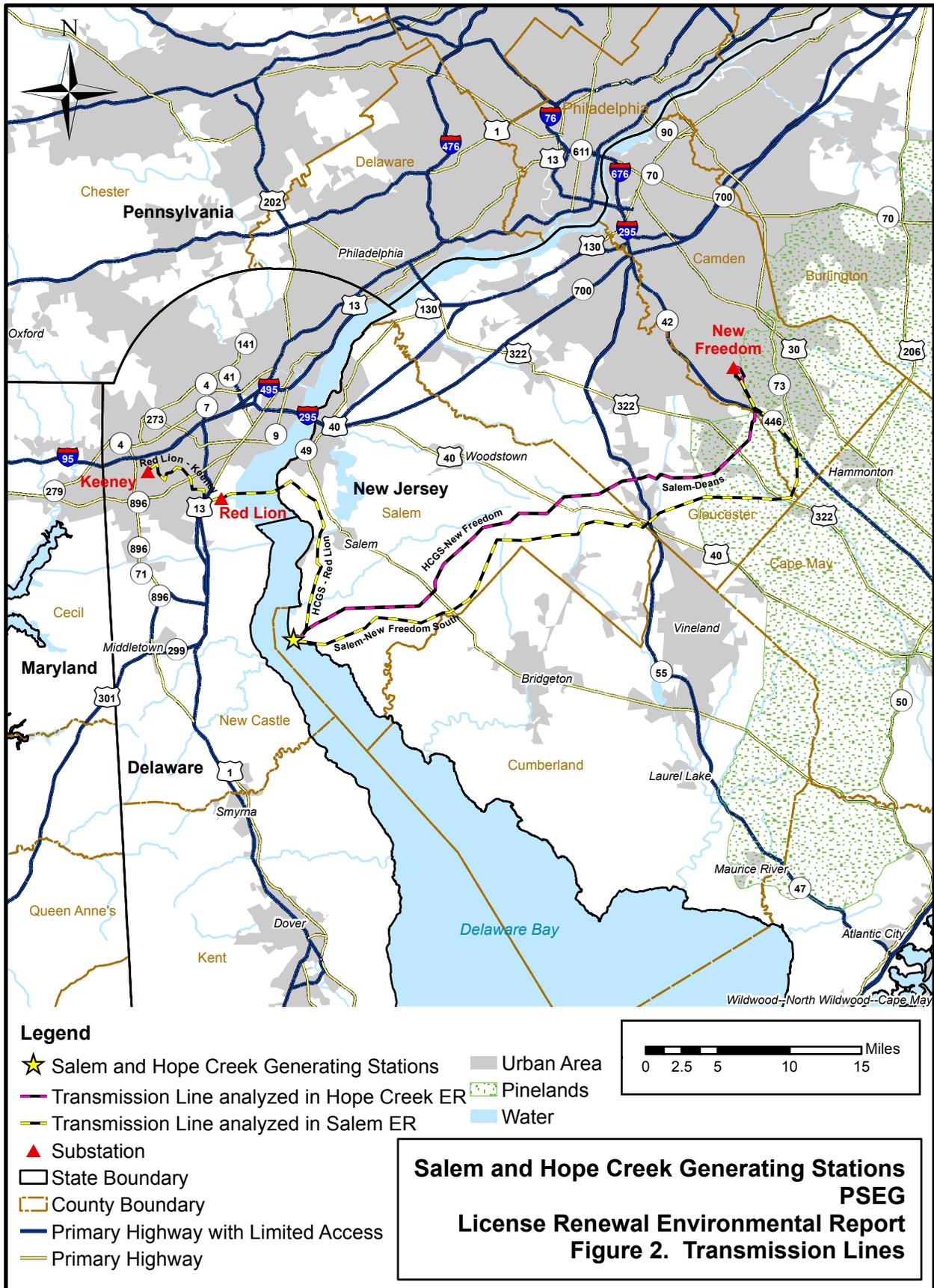


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State of Delaware
Historical and Cultural Affairs

21 The Green
Dover, DE 19901-3611
Phone: (302) 736.7400 Fax: (302) 739.5660

▼

FINDING OF NO ADVERSE EFFECT

Review Code: 2009.03.05.02

Agency: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Project: License Renewal, Salem and Hope Creek Generating Station
Lower Alloways Creek Township, Salem County, NJ

The staff of the State Historic Preservation Office has reviewed the materials submitted regarding the above-cited project. Based on this review, it is our determination that the project will not adversely affect any properties listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

Timothy A. Slavin
State Historic Preservation Officer

Reviewed By: 
Joan N. Larrivee, Architectural Historian
joan.larrivee@state.de.us

Date: 3/24/09

