

PSEG Nuclear, LLC
ZEC Application – Salem 1
Docket No:

Response to Application Request: SI-SSA-0026
Date: 12/19/2018

Question:

Amount of shortfall on decommissioning funds resulting from early retirement.

Attachments Provided Herewith: No

Response:

Company decommissioning plans include the use of the Safstor process and result in no expected shortfalls in decommissioning funds from early retirement.

Safstor is an approved approach by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). In Safstor, a nuclear plant is kept intact and placed in protective storage for an extended period of time. All fuel is removed from the reactor vessel and placed in fuel pools or dry storage on-site. The NRC continues to inspect the site and provides regulatory oversight of maintenance and security appropriate to the low risk profile of the site. The plant is dismantled once radioactivity has decayed to lower levels and the safety risk to workers is substantially reduced. The entire process must be completed within 60 years of the plant ceasing operations.

Given the decommissioning activities under the Safstor method, assets have a longer time period over which the NDT investments are expected to appreciate in value to be sufficient to meet the expected decommissioning obligation.