

Regional

# PGE fined for safety violations

By Bob Baum  
Associated Press

PORTLAND (AP) — Portland General Electric Co. said Monday it will not appeal a \$280,000 fine levied by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission for violation of safety requirements at the Trojan nuclear plant.

The fine, by far the largest ever levied by the federal agency against PGE, is the result of a failure to properly inspect sumps beneath the containment building of Oregon's only commercial nuclear power plant.

Both the NRC and the utility said the sumps may have been inoperable since Trojan was completed in 1976.

PGE spokesman Steve Sautter said the sumps, pits for draining located at the bottom of the containment building, can be used in the case of a major accident involving a rupture of the containment building. In case of such an accident, the sumps can be used to collect the leaking water and pump it back into the plant's cooling system, preventing a nuclear meltdown.

The inoperable sumps, he said, "would not cause an accident but would certainly hinder our ability to respond to a loss of coolant accident in the plant."

"Then you have a situation similar to what happened at Three Mile Island," Sautter told The Oregonian.

Screens intended to prevent debris from entering the sumps either were missing or damaged, the NRC said.

Sautter said the problem is the result of "a missed inspection."

"From our viewpoint, there really is no excuse for it," he said. "There have been some manage-

ment changes at the plant and we've taken a very hard look again at plant management oversight and accountability."

"There have been at least two individuals within the last couple of months who have been reassigned to duties outside the nuclear division as a result of the feeling that we need to be accountable for our actions," Sautter said.

The NRC said the sumps had been inoperable at least since the plant was refueled last year because screens intended to prevent debris from entering them either were missing or damaged.

NRC spokesman Greg Cook said federal inspectors could not determine if some of the screens at the top of the sumps ever had been installed. Screens on the side of the sumps were damaged.

The lack of screens and damaged screens allowed debris such as small nylon wire ties and pieces of metal into the sump area, Cook said.

The sumps are supposed to be inspected yearly when the plant is shut down for refueling, Sautter said.

"We look at this as a very significant finding," he said. "We have made some changes and will continue to make some changes to make sure a situation like this doesn't arise again."

He said PGE employees first noticed the screen problems during an inspection in July and notified the NRC. Subsequent inspections in July and August by the NRC and PGE discovered further problems, Cook said.

The violation was classified as a "Severity Level II" problem, the next-to-highest of the five categories of problems at nuclear plants. A Level II violation carries a minimum fine of \$80,000.

The previous largest NRC fine against PGE was \$80,000 in 1986 for problems in the ventilation system of Trojan's control building.

**PIZZA PETE'S ITALIAN KITCHEN**  
ALL YOU CAN EAT!  
**SPAGHETTI SPECIAL**  
WITH GARLIC BREAD  
**\$3.25 TUESDAY ONLY**  
5 P.M. to 9 P.M.  
2673 Willamette • 484-0996  
Next to the Black Forest Tavern  
Delivery Service

**FREE SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS WHO NEED MONEY FOR COLLEGE**

Every Student is Eligible for Some Type of Financial Aid Regardless of Grades or Parental Income.

- We have a data bank of over 200,000 listings of scholarships, fellowships, grants, and loans, representing over \$10 billion in private sector funding.
- Many scholarships are given to students based on their academic interests, career plans, family heritage and place of residence.
- There's money available for students who have been newspaper carriers, grocery clerks, cheerleaders, non-smokers... etc.
- Results GUARANTEED.

CALL ANYTIME For A Free Brochure (800) 346-6401

# UO Bookstore

## FINE ART MEDIA SPECIALS

**WATERCOLOR BRUSHES**  
GRUMBACHER #815 Red Sable Round Brush • Assorted sizes  
LIQUITEX Kolinsky Plus Sable/Synthetic Blend  
**OIL BRUSHES**  
GRUMBACHER White Bristle  
WINSOR & NEWTON University  
**30% OFF Retail**

**LEFRANC & BOURGEOIS 10 COLOR GOUACHE SET**  
LFB NDC 6902 REG. 6.20 **4.99**

**NEW CONTE PASTEL PENCILS**  
REG. 1.29  
**97¢ EACH**

**PRO ART ACRYLIC GESSO**  
32 OZ. SIZE REG. 10.69  
**7.99**  
Acrylic Gesso Canvas Ground  
No. 1301-16 16 fl. oz. (473)

**STRETCHER BARS 25% Off Retail**  
**CANVAS**  
52" 7 OZ. UNPRIMED  
REG. 5.25 **3.95** YD.

**NEW LIQUITEX CONCENTRATED ARTIST COLOR**  
REG. 2.49  
**1.59**

**WINSOR & NEWTON WINTON 200ML LARGE TUBE OILS**  
**25% OFF RETAIL**

**GRUMBACHER ACADEMY WATER COLORS**  
REG. 1.95  
**1.39**

**GRUMBACHER PRE-TESTED OILS**  
1.25 OZ. TUBES  
**30% OFF RETAIL**

ART & ARCHITECTURE SUPPLY

OFFER ENDS 10/21/89

**UO BOOKSTORE** 13th & Kincaid  
M-F 7:30-6:00  
SAT 10:00-6:00  
686-4331