

AmerGen

A PECO Energy/British Energy Company

AmerGen Energy Company

Oyster Creek
U.S. Route 9 South
P.O. Box 388
Forked River, NJ 08731-0388
Phone: 609-971-4000

6530-002-2561

AUG 15 2000

US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
(by cert. mail RRR# Z 397 062 934)
Document Control Desk - NRC
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Sirs,

**Subject: Oyster Creek Generating Station
Docket 50-219
Sea Turtle Incidental Capture Report 2000-3**

This report provides detailed information regarding the recent incidental capture of a juvenile Atlantic green sea turtle at the Oyster Creek Generating Station. The turtle was captured alive and apparently unharmed during the evening of August 3, 2000 at the dilution intake structure trash bars. As indicated on the attached incident report, the turtle has been taken to the Marine Mammal Stranding Center in Brigantine, NJ for examination, care, tagging and eventual safe release to offshore Atlantic Ocean waters.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Malcolm Browne at (609) 971-4124.

Very truly yours,



Ron J. DeGregorio,
Vice President, Oyster Creek

RJD/MEB/ew
Enclosure

cc: Ms. Mary Colligan (by cert. mail RRR# Z 397 062 935)
U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Habitat and Protected Resources Division
One Blackburn Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930

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cc: Mr. Hubert Miller (by cert. mail RRR# Z 397 062 936)
Administrator, Region 1
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, PA 19406

US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Ms. Helen N. Pastis, Mailstop O-8-B1
(by cert. mail RRR# Z 397 062 937)
Washington, DC 20555

US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mr. James Wilson, Mailstop O-11-F1
(by cert. mail RRR# Z 397 062 938)
Washington, DC 20555

Mr. Dave Jenkins (by cert. mail RRR# Z 051 947 482)
NJ Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Fish, Game, and Wildlife
P.O. Box 400
Trenton, NJ 08625-0400

OYSTER CREEK GENERATING STATION

Sea Turtle Incidental Capture Report 2000-3

At approximately 1525 hours on Thursday August 3, 2000, an Oyster Creek Generating Station (OCGS) operator performing a routine inspection of the dilution trash racks noticed a live sea turtle in Bay # 4 of the dilution intake structure. The turtle was carefully removed as quickly as possible and found to be alive, moving about normally and with no apparent injury. OCGS Environmental personnel who took custody of the turtle confirmed it to be a juvenile Atlantic green sea turtle (Chelonia mydas). The water temperature at the time of the incidental capture was approximately 83.9 F (28.8 C) and OCGS was in operation at full power with four circulating water pumps and two dilution pumps in operation. Although it is impossible to say precisely how long the turtle had been on the intake structure prior to removal, the dilution trash racks had been mechanically cleaned earlier the same day.

The turtle measured 11.5 in (29.2 cm) carapace length straight line and weighed 7.6 lb (3.4 kg). Sex was not determined. No tags were present on the turtle when captured. The majority of the dorsal surface of the turtle was heavily encrusted with barnacles. Several marginal scutes on the posterior dorsal surface had a dull grayish coloration, which may be an indication of a fungal infection. USNRC and NMFS personnel were notified of the capture within 24 hours on August 4, 2000.