

September 18, 2000

Christopher Mantzaris, ARA  
for Protected Resources  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
Northeast Region  
1 Blackburn Drive  
Gloucester, MA 01930

SUBJECT: REINITIATION OF FORMAL CONSULTATION UNDER SECTION 7 OF THE  
ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT FOR THE OYSTER CREEK NUCLEAR  
GENERATING STATION (TAC NO. MA9933)

Dear Mr. Mantzaris:

This letter is to request reinitiation of formal consultation on sea turtles at the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station (OCNGS) under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. The incidental take statement for the OCNGS, issued on September 21, 1995, expires on September 21, 2000. Enclosed is a biological assessment of the impact of the OCGNS on sea turtles, entitled "Assessment of the Impacts of the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station on Kemp's Ridley (*Lepidochelys kempii*), Loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*), and Atlantic Green (*Chelonia mydas*) Sea Turtles," dated July 2000. The biological assessment includes a detailed discussion of all incidental captures at the OCNGS through July of 2000. It also describes the "reasonable and prudent measures necessary to minimize impacts" to listed sea turtles taken by the licensee.

On the date of the August 3, 2000 letter, GPU Nuclear Inc. was the licensed operator for Oyster Creek. On August 8, 2000, GPUN's ownership interest in Oyster Creek was transferred to AmerGen Energy Company, LLC (AmerGen). By letter dated August 10, 2000, AmerGen requested that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission continue to review and act upon all requests before the Commission which had been submitted by GPUN. Accordingly, the staff is reviewing the August 3, 2000, letter.

If you have any questions in this matter, please contact Jim Wilson, of the NRC staff, by telephone at (301) 415-1108 or by e-mail at [jhw1@nrc.gov](mailto:jhw1@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Elinor G. Adensam, Director  
Project Directorate I  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-219

Enclosure: As stated

cc w/encl: See next page

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AmerGen Energy Company, LLC  
Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station

cc:

Kevin P. Gallen, Esquire  
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP  
1800 M Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20036-5869

PECO Energy Company  
Nuclear Group Headquarters  
Correspondence Control  
P.O. Box 150  
Kennett Square. PA 19348

Manager Nuclear Safety & Licensing  
Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station  
Mail Stop OCAB2  
P. O. Box 388  
Forked River, NJ 08731

Regional Administrator, Region I  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
475 Allendale Road  
King of Prussia, PA 19406-1415

Mayor  
Lacey Township  
818 West Lacey Road  
Forked River, NJ 08731

Resident Inspector  
c/o U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
P.O. Box 445  
Forked River, NJ 08731

Kent Tosch, Chief  
New Jersey Department of  
Environmental Protection  
Bureau of Nuclear Engineering  
CN 415  
Trenton, NJ 08625

Mr. Ronald DeGregorio  
Vice President Oyster Creek  
AmerGen Energy Company, LLC  
P. O. Box 388  
Forked River, NJ 08731

Deborah Staudinger  
Hogan & Hartson  
Columbia Square  
555 13<sup>th</sup> St., NW  
Washington, DC 20004