

November 3, 2000

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

SUBJECT: OYSTER CREEK NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION - ISSUANCE OF
AMENDMENT RE: SAFETY LIMIT MINIMUM CRITICAL POWER RATIO
(TAC NO. MA9790)

Dear Mr. DeGregorio:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 218 to Facility Operating License No. DPR-16 for the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station, in response to your application dated June 30, 2000, as supplemented on September 26, 2000.

On the date of the June 30, 2000, application, GPU Nuclear, Inc. (GPUN) 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 has completed its review of the requested amendment.

The amendment revises the Technical Specifications to establish that the existing Safety Limit Minimum Critical Power Ratio contained in TS 2.1.A is applicable for the next operating cycle (Cycle 18).

A copy of the related Safety Evaluation is also enclosed. Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's biweekly Federal Register notice.

Sincerely,

/IRA/

Helen N. Pastis, Sr. Project Manager, Section 1
Project Directorate I
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-219

Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. 218 to DPR-16
2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

AmerGen Energy Company, LLC
Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station

cc:

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Accession No.: ML003757531 *SE Input dated 10/2/00 was provided and no major changes were made.

OFFICE	PM:PD1-1	E	LA:PD1-1	E	OGC		SC:PD1-1		SRXB*	
NAME	HPastis		SLittle		R. Weisman		MGamberoni		RCaruso	
DATE	10/12/00		10/11/00		10/16/00		10/2/00		10/2/00	

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

AMERGEN ENERGY COMPANY, LLC

AND

JERSEY CENTRAL POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

DOCKET NO. 50-219

OYSTER CREEK NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 218
License No. DPR-16

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
 - A. The application for amendment by GPU Nuclear, Inc., dated June 30, 2000, as supplemented on September 26, 2000, as adopted by AmerGen Energy Company, LLC (the licensee), pursuant to a letter dated August 10, 2000, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
 - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;
 - C. There is reasonable assurance: (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations;
 - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
 - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.

2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment, and paragraph 2.C.(2) of Facility Operating License No. DPR-16 is hereby amended to read as follows:

(2) Technical Specifications

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendices A and B, as revised through Amendment No. 218 , are hereby incorporated in the license. AmerGen Energy Company, LLC, shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications.

3. This license amendment is effective as of the date of issuance and shall be implemented within 30 days of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

/RA/

Marsha Gamberoni, Chief, Section 1
Project Directorate I
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment:
Changes to the Technical
Specifications

Date of Issuance: November 3, 2000

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 218

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-16

DOCKET NO. 50-219

Replace the following page of the Appendix A, Technical Specifications, with the attached revised page as indicated. The revised page is identified by amendment number and contains marginal lines indicating the areas of change.

Remove

2.1-1

Insert

2.1-1

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 218

TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-16

AMERGEN ENERGY COMPANY, LCC, AND

JERSEY CENTRAL POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

OYSTER CREEK NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION

DOCKET NO. 50-219

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated June 30, 2000, as supplemented on September 26, 2000, the GPU Nuclear, Inc. (GPUN) submitted a request for changes to the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station Technical Specifications (TSs). The requested changes would establish that the existing Safety Limit Minimum Critical Power Ratio (SLMCPR) contained in TS 2.1.A is applicable for the next operating cycle (Cycle 18). The September 26, 2000, letter provided clarifying information within the scope of the original application and did not change the initial proposed no significant hazards consideration determination.

On the date of the June 30, 2000, application, GPUN 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 or the licensee). By letter dated August 10, 2000, AmerGen requested that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) continue to review and act upon all requests before the Commission which had been submitted by GPUN. Accordingly, the NRC staff has completed its review of the requested amendment.

2.0 EVALUATION

2.1 Discussion

The licensee proposed changes to the TSs for the Oyster Creek Cycle 18 operation. The proposed TS revision involves changing the applicable cycle number from 17 to 18 in TS 2.1.A. The Cycle 18 core has 560 fuel assemblies, comprised of 184 fresh General Electric GE9B bundles, 184 once burned GE9B bundles, 188 twice burned GE9B bundles, and 4 thrice burned GE9B (3.48 wt. % U₂₃₅) bundles.

2.2 Evaluation

The licensee requested a change to the Oyster Creek Cycle 18 TSs in accordance with the 10 CFR 50.4(b)(1). The proposed revision of TS 2.1.A is described below.

The licensee proposed to change the cycle specific number from 17 to 18. The licensee described the methodologies used to calculate the SLMCPR values for the proposed TS changes in the application. The Cycle 18 SLMCPR analysis was performed by Global Nuclear Fuel (GNF) using the plant- and cycle-specific fuel and core parameters, and NRC-approved methodologies including NEDO-10958-A (GETAB), and Amendment 25 to NEDE-24011-P-A (GESTAR-II).

The staff has reviewed the justification for no change to the SLMCPR value of 1.09 for Cycle 18 operation using the approach stated in Amendment 25 to GESTAR II. Based on our review of the submittal and the detailed summary results of the analysis for Cycle 18 operation in Table 1 of Attachment 1, the staff has concluded that the SLMCPR analysis for Oyster Creek Cycle 18 operation using the plant- and cycle-specific parameters in conjunction with the approved method is acceptable. The Cycle 18 SLMCPR, which is 0.01 higher than the calculated value, will ensure that 99.9 percent of the fuel rods in the core will not experience boiling transition and satisfies the requirements of General Design Criterion 10 of Appendix A to 10 CFR Part 50 regarding acceptable fuel design limits. Therefore, the staff has concluded that the justification for analyzing and determining the SLMCPR of 1.09 for the Oyster Creek Cycle 18 is acceptable.

The staff has reviewed the proposed change for the cycle specific number from 17 to 18 and finds it acceptable since approved methodologies were used and the calculated SLMCPR value is lower than the TS value of 1.09 by 0.01.

Based on our review, we conclude that the proposed change to TS 2.1.A is acceptable for the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station Cycle 18 application because the changes are analyzed based on the NRC-approved method and the most conservative cycle-specific parameters for SLMCPR analysis are used.

3.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the New Jersey State official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendment. The State official had no comments.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendment changes a requirement with respect to installation or use of a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. The NRC staff has determined that the amendment involves no significant increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types, of any effluents that may be released offsite, and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The Commission has previously issued a proposed finding that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration, and there has been no public comment on such finding (65 FR 57406). Accordingly, the amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b) no environmental

impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendment.

5.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributor: T. Huang

Date: November 3, 2000