

January 23, 2001

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

SUBJECT: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION CONCERNING THE CONSULTATION ON
SEA TURTLES FOR THE OYSTER CREEK NUCLEAR GENERATING
STATION (TAC NO. MB0572)

Dear Mr. Mantzaris:

On September 18, 2000, the NRC requested reinitiation of formal consultation on sea turtles at the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station (Oyster Creek) under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. Enclosed was a biological assessment of the impact of Oyster Creek 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 included a detailed discussion of all incidental captures at Oyster Creek through July of 2000. It also described the "reasonable and prudent measures necessary to minimize impacts" to listed sea turtles taken by the licensee. On October 6, 2000, the National Marine Fisheries Service identified six specific areas where additional information is needed before formal consultation can proceed.

Enclosed are the responses to each of the six specific requests identified by you in your letter dated October 6, 2000. In the enclosure, the six items of information are printed as numbered questions in boldface type and responses to each question are provided.

If you have any questions in this matter, please contact Helen N. Pastis, Senior Project Manager for Oyster Creek at (301) 415-1261.

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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Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station

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