

February 8, 1995

Mr. John J. Barton
Vice President and Director
GPU Nuclear Corporation
Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station
Post Office Box 388
Forked River, NJ 08731

SUBJECT: OYSTER CREEK NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION - (TAC NO. M89684)

Dear Mr. Barton:

Enclosed is a copy of the Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact related to your application for amendment dated June 15, 1994, as supplemented September 23, and November 3, 1994. The proposed amendment would change the setpoints of Technical Specification 2.3.D, "Reactor High Pressure, Relief Valve Initiation" by increasing the setpoint value by 15 psig for each of the Electromatic Relief Valves in the Automatic Depressurization System.

The assessment is being forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Alexander W. Dromerick, Sr. Project Manager
Project Directorate I-4
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-219

Enclosure: Environmental Assessment

cc w/encl: See next page

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

February 8, 1995

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alexander W. Dromerick, Sr.", written in dark ink.

Alexander W. Dromerick, Sr. Project Manager
Project Directorate I-4
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-219

Enclosure: Environmental Assessment

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Mr. John J. Barton
Vice President and Director

Oyster Creek Nuclear
Generating Station

cc:

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Environmental Review Coordinator
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New York, NY 10278

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONGPU NUCLEAR CORPORATIONDOCKET NO. 50-219OYSTER CREEK NUCLEAR GENERATING STATIONENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OFNO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. DPR-16, issued to GPU Nuclear Corporation, (the licensee), for operation of the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station, located in Ocean County, New Jersey.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTIdentification of the Proposed Action:

The proposed action would change the setpoints of Technical Specification 2.3.D, "Reactor High Pressure, Relief Valve Initiation" by increasing the setpoint value by 15 psig for each of the Electromatic Relief Valves (EMRVs) in the Automatic Depressurization System.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application for amendment dated June 15, 1994, as supplemented by letter dated September 23, 1994, and November 3, 1994.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed action is needed because the "Bourden tube" type pressure switches currently in use at Oyster Creek experience drift, which results in exceeding the existing "as found" setpoint. Increasing the specified

setpoints by 15 psig will provide for expanding the "as found" tolerance bands. Increasing these tolerance bands serves to ensure that the setpoints will remain within the Technical Specification requirements over a nominal 24 month operating cycle.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed action and concludes that the licensee has provided information supporting the use of a 1.04 multiplier. This multiplier is applied to pool dynamic loads previously calculated for the plant unique analysis report (PUAR), to account for the EMRV setpoint increase and to account for errors in calculations of the PUAR loads due to use of an incorrect EMRV flow rating. The staff has reviewed the licensee's basis for use of the multiplier and finds it acceptable. The staff also finds that the structural analysis of the affected plant components was adequately conservative to demonstrate acceptability of the EMRV setpoint change.

The proposed amendment involves a minor change in the operation of the facility. The change will not increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types of any effluents that may be released offsite, and there is no significant increase in the allowable individual cumulative occupational radiation exposure. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed action does involve features located entirely within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. It does not affect nonradiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that

there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action:

Since the Commission has concluded there is no measurable environmental impact associated with the proposed action, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impact need not be evaluated. As an alternative to the proposed action, the staff considered denial of the proposed action. Denial of the application would result in no change in current environmental impacts. The environmental impacts of the proposed action and the alternative action are similar.

Alternative Use of Resources:

This action does not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement for the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

In accordance with its stated policy, the staff consulted with the New Jersey State official regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comments.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Based upon the environmental assessment, the Commission concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, the Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed action.

For further details with respect to the proposed action, see the licensee's letter dated June 15, 1994, as supplemented by letters dated September 23, and November 3, 1994, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, The Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room located at the Ocean County Library, 101 Washington Street, Toms River, NJ 08753.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 8th day of February 1995.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Phillip F. McKee, Director
Project Directorate I-4
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation