

April 2, 1992

Docket No. 50-219

Distribution:

Mr. John J. Barton  
Vice President and Director  
GPU Nuclear Corporation  
Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station  
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Dear Mr. Barton:

SUBJECT: OYSTER CREEK NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION - ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT  
(TAC NO. M82016)

Enclosed is a copy of the Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact which relates to your submittal dated December 6, 1991, as supplemented March 2, 1992 requesting an exemption from the filing requirements of 10 CFR 55.45(b)(2)(iii) to allow for the submittal of Form NRC-474, "Simulation Facility Certification," after the March 26, 1991, deadline provided in the rule but no later than December 31, 1992. GPUN further requested an exemption from the requirement of 10 CFR 55.45(b)(2)(iv) to allow GPUN to continue to administer the simulation portion of the operating tests on the Nine Mile Point Unit 1 (NMP-1) simulator.

The assessment has been forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

/s/

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

Enclosure:  
Assessment

cc w/enclosure:  
See next page

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*w/changes noted*

Document Name: EAM82016

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONGPU NUCLEAR CORPORATIONJERSEY CENTRAL POWER & LIGHT COMPANYOYSTER CREEK NUCLEAR GENERATING STATIONDOCKET NO. 50-219ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ANDFINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of exemptions from the requirements of 10 CFR 55.45(b)(2)(iii) and (iv) to GPU Nuclear Corporation (GPUN/the licensee), for the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station, located in Ocean County, New Jersey.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTIdentification of Proposed Action:

The proposed action would exempt the licensee for a second time from the requirements of 10 CFR 55.45(b)(2)(iii) to submit Form NRC-474, "Simulation Facility Certification," not later than 46 months after the effective date of the rule. The revision to 10 CFR Part 55 became effective on May 26, 1987. The exemptions would allow for filing of Form NRC-474, Simulation Facility Certification not later than December 31, 1992. The proposed action would also exempt the licensee from the requirement of 10 CFR 55.45(b)(2)(iv) to allow them to continue to administer the simulation facility portion of the operating tests on the Nine Mile Point Unit 1 (NMP-1) simulator until the Oyster Creek simulator is certified, but not later than December 31, 1992.

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The proposed action is in accordance with 10 CFR 50.12, Specific Exemptions, and 10 CFR 55.11, Specific Exemptions, and is based upon the information provided to the NRC in the licensee's request dated December 6, 1991, as supplemented by letter dated March 2, 1992.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed exemptions are needed because of unavoidable delays in the completion and delivery of the simulator and to allow GPUN to administer the simulation facility portions of the operating tests on the NMP-1 simulator.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The proposed action will have no incremental impact relative to current practice because the exemptions will permit the continued but temporary use of the NMP-1 simulator to allow GPUN to continue to administer the simulation portion of the operating tests.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action:

Since the Commission has concluded that the environmental effects of the proposed action are not significant, any alternative with equal or greater environmental impacts need not be evaluated.

The principal alternative would be to deny the requested exemptions. This would not reduce the environmental impacts attributed to this facility and would result in not permitting GPUN to continue administrating the simulator portion of the operator tests.

Alternative Use of Resources:

This action does not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement (FES) for the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station dated December 1974.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

The Commission's staff reviewed the licensee's request and did not consult other agencies or persons.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

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

For further details with respect to this action, see the request for exemptions dated December 6, 1991, as supplemented by letter dated March 2, 1992, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC 20555 and at the Local Public Document Room located at the Ocean County Library, Reference Department, 101 Washington Street, Toms River, New Jersey 08753.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 2nd day of April 1992.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



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