

00209

May 29, 1979

M. Plesset, Chairman  
Oyster Creek Subcommittee

OYSTER CREEK ECCS ANALYSIS

Attached are copies of an abnormal occurrence report and a letter from Jersey Central Power and Light, which states that the Exxon ECCS EM had not considered plant operation with less than 5 recirculation pumps in service. Recently the plant was placed in 4-loop (pump) operation from March 22-26, 1979, and April 8, through May 2, 1979, when a low water level transient occurred, shutting down the reactor, (the May 2, 1979 transient was discussed at the 229th Meeting).

Upon discovery of the error, the plant was derated to conform to the more restrictive operating limits of a previously approved GE/Exxon ECCS EM that supported 4-loop operation.

I spoke with Mr. Gordon Bond of GPU Services and Mr. Roy Woods of the NRC Staff. Mr. Bond noted that this error was missed by both GPU and the NRC. Mr. Woods agreed that the NRC had overlooked the fact that the plant has a separate Technical Specification that allows N-1 loop operation. The consequence of the error however was minimal. Using the more restrictive GE/Exxon ECCS EM required a power derate of 2%.

Exxon will submit revisions to the ECCS EM for N-1 loop operation with their model. This effort should be complete in about six weeks. I will keep you informed of progress on this item.

Paul Boehnert  
Reactor Engineer

Attachment: as stated

cc: ACRS Members  
M. W. Libarkin  
T. G. McCreless

Oyster Creek

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