

AmerGen Energy Company, LLC  
Oyster Creek  
US Route 9 South  
P.O. Box 388  
Forked River, NJ 08731-0388

November 20, 2003  
2120-032-2793  
2130-03-20296  
File No. 03085

US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Document Control Desk - NRC  
Washington, DC 20555

Subject: Oyster Creek Generating Station  
Docket 50-219  
Sea Turtle Incidental Capture Report 2003-2

This report provides detailed information regarding the recent incidental capture of a juvenile green sea turtle at the Oyster Creek Generating Station. The turtle was captured alive during the afternoon of October 24, 2003 after it was removed from the circulating water intake structure trash bars. As indicated on the attached incident report, the turtle was taken to the Marine Mammal Stranding Center in Brigantine, NJ for examination, care, and eventual safe release.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Malcolm Browne at (609) 971-4124.

Very truly yours,



Michael J. Massaro  
Plant Manager

MJM/MEB/dl  
Enclosure

cc: Ms. Carrie Upite  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration  
National Marine Fisheries Service Northeast Region  
Protected Resources Division  
One Blackburn Drive  
Gloucester, MA 01930

IE23

cc: Mr. Hubert Miller, Administrator, Region 1  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
475 Allendale Road  
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Mr. Peter Tam  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Senior Project Manager  
Washington, DC 20555

Mr. James Wilson, Mailstop O-11-F1  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555

Senior Resident Inspector  
Oyster Creek Generating Station  
PO Box 388  
Forked River, NJ 08731

Mr. Dave Jenkins  
NJ Department of Environmental Protection  
Division of Fish, Game, and Wildlife  
P.O. Box 400  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0400

## OYSTER CREEK GENERATING STATION

### Sea Turtle Incidental Capture Report 2003-2

At approximately 0850 hours on Friday October 24, 2003, an Oyster Creek Generating Station (OCGS) operator performing a routine cleaning of the trash racks noticed a sea turtle against Bay # 4 of the circulating water intake structure. The turtle was found to be apparently healthy and moving about normally. OCGS Environmental personnel who took custody of the turtle confirmed it to be a juvenile green sea turtle (Chelonia mydas). The water temperature at the time of the incidental capture was approximately 53 F (11.7 C) and OCGS was in operation at 98% power with three circulating water pumps and two dilution pumps in operation. Although it is impossible to say precisely how long the turtle had been on the trash bars prior to removal, the circulating water trash racks had been inspected earlier the same morning at 0500 hours. The turtle was not observed during that trash rack inspection.

The turtle measured 14.2 in (36.2 cm) carapace length straight line and weighed 15.3 lb (6.9 kg). Sex was not determined. Some small scrapes and chips were observed on the dorsal and lateral surfaces of the carapace. No tags were present on the turtle when captured. USNRC and NMFS personnel were notified of the capture within 24 hours on October 24, 2003.

The turtle was taken to the Marine Mammal Stranding Center (MMSC) in Brigantine, NJ at approximately 1030 hours on October 24, 2003. At the MMSC, the turtle was examined and fed. The scrapes on the carapace were determined not to be a significant concern. The turtle was held at the MMSC until arrangements were made to transfer it to the Virginia Marine Science Museum (VMSM). VMSM is a more southerly location where the turtle could be observed, fed, and eventually released without fear of it dying due to cold shock.

# SEA TURTLE STRANDING AND SALVAGE NETWORK - STRANDING REPORT

**OBSERVER'S NAME / ADDRESS / PHONE:**  
 First Henry M.I. J. Last Page  
 Affiliation Field Technician  
 Address PO Box 773, Brigantine, NJ 08203  
 Area code/Phone number 609-266-0538

**STRANDING DATE:**  
 Year 2003 Month 10 Day 24  
 Turtle number by day 01  
 Coordinator must be notified within 24 hrs  
 this was done by Xphone (609)266-0538  
 email  fax

**SPECIES: (check one)**  
 CC = Loggerhead  
 CM = Green  
 DC = Leatherback  
 EI = Hawksbill  
 LK = Kemp's Ridley  
 LO = Olive Ridley  
 UN = Unidentified  
 Check Unidentified if not positive. Do Not Guess.

**STRANDING LOCATION:**  Offshore (Atlantic or Gulf beach)  Inshore (bay, river, sound, inlet, etc.)  
 State New Jersey Parish Ocean  
 Descriptive location (be specific) Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station, on cooling intake  
 Latitude 39°30'18.0" N Longitude 74°24'43.6" W

Carcass necropsied?  Yes  No  
 Photos taken?  Yes  No  
 Species verified by coordinator?  Yes  No

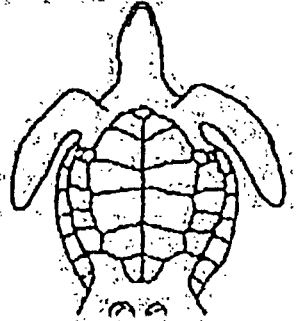
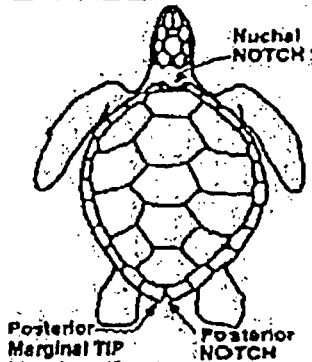
**CONDITION: (check one)**  
 0 = Alive  
 1 = Fresh dead  
 2 = Moderately decomposed  
 3 = Severely decomposed  
 4 = Dried carcass  
 5 = Skeleton, bones only

**FINAL DISPOSITION: (check)**  
 1 = Left on beach where found; painted?  Yes  No  
 2 = Buried:  on beach /  off beach; carcass painted before buried?  Yes  No  
 3 = Salvaged:  all /  part(s), what/why?  
 4 = Picked up on beach/dune; painted?  Yes  No  
 6 = Alive, released  
 7 = Alive, taken to rehab. facility, where? MMSO  
 8 = Left floating, not recovered; painted?  Yes  No  
 9 = Disposition unknown; explain  
 \*If painted, what color?

**SEX:**  
 Undetermined  
 Female  Male  
 Does tail extend beyond carapace?  
 Yes; how far? \_\_\_\_\_ cm / in  
 No  
 How was sex determined?  
 Necropsy  
 Tail length (adult only)

**TAGS: Contact coordinator before disposing of any tagged animal!!**  
 Checked for flipper tags?  Yes  No  
 Check all 4 flippers. If found, record tag number(s) / tag location / return address  
 PIT tag scan?  Yes  No  
 If found, record number / tag location  
 Coded wire tag scan?  Yes  No  
 If positive response, record location (flipper)  
 Checked for living tag?  Yes  No  
 If found, record location (scute number & side)

**CARAPACE MEASUREMENTS: (see drawing)**  
 Using callipers Circle unit  
 Straight length (NOTCH-TIP) 14 cm / in  
 Minimum length (NOTCH-NOTCH) \_\_\_\_\_ cm / in  
 Straight width (Widest Point) 12 cm / in  
 Using non-metal measuring tape Circle unit  
 Curved length (NOTCH-TIP) \_\_\_\_\_ cm / in  
 Minimum length (NOTCH-NOTCH) \_\_\_\_\_ cm / in  
 Curved width (Widest Point) \_\_\_\_\_ cm / in  
 Weight:  actual /  est. 15.3 kg / lb



Mark wounds / abnormalities on diagrams at left and describe below (note tar or oil, gear, or debris entanglement, propeller damage, epibionts, papillomas, emaciation, etc.). Please note if no wounds / abnormalities are found. Alive. No obvious injuries. Possibly cold stunned. Alert but lethargic. Heavy algal growth and numerous barnacles on carapace. Transferred to VMSM for further rehabilitation.