

EDO Principal Correspondence Control

FROM: DUE: 05/06/04

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FINAL REPLY:

Joanie M. Parks  
Waretown, New Jersey

TO:

Travers, EDO, et al.

FOR SIGNATURE OF :

\*\* GRN \*\*

CRC NO:

Dyer, NRR

DESC:

ROUTING:

Oyster Creek License Extension

Travers  
Norry  
Paperiello  
Kane  
Collins  
Dean  
Burns/Cyr  
Miller, RI  
Zimmerman, NSIR

DATE: 04/14/04

ASSIGNED TO:

CONTACT:

NRR

Dyer

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

Template: EDO-001

E-RIDS: EDO-01

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March 31, 2004

James E. McGreevey  
Governor of New Jersey  
P. O. Box 001  
Trenton, NJ 08625

James J. Kennedy  
State Street Partners  
156 W. State Street – Suite 101  
Trenton, NJ 08608

Dr. William D. Travers  
Director of Operations  
US NRC  
Mail Stop 16E15  
Washington, DC 20555

Tom Ridge  
Office of Homeland Security  
The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500

RE: Oyster Creek License Extension

Gentlemen,

I have written many letters over the last year, but this is the first letter to Mr. Ridge and James Kennedy.

Governor McGreevey, it's time that you take a stand against this license extension for the safety of New Jersey residents statewide and especially those of us living in Ocean County. I've written to you several times for your position on Oyster Creek and have yet to receive an answer. In addition to the possibility of an age-related operational problem, New Jersey residents now share the very real concern of a terrorist attack on our nuclear plants. As governor of this state I would think these two issues would compel you to take a stand against a license renewal.

There will be an economic impact on Lacey Township when the plant is closed, but the magnitude of that impact is far less than the economic impact when AT&T downsized tens of thousand of employees over the past 10 years. AT&T helped ease this impact by offering severance packages, retraining employees, career counseling and other employee services. I'm sure AmerGen has the funds to do the same to help ease the economic impact for their 450 employees who work at the plant.

Dr. Travers, I've read that the NRC has never in its history denied a nuclear plant. Given the fact that Oyster Creek is the country's oldest nuclear plant and has serious structural problems and has received numerous citations over the past several years, I urge you to keep the safety of those living in New Jersey and surrounding states as a top priority as you weight the pros and cons of a license extension.

EDO --G20040272

In the last 3 weeks Oyster Creek made local news again.

- *Asbury Park Press, March 10, 2004, page A19: Oyster Creek design vulnerable to Terrorist Attack* "This vintage Réactor Building is structurally not adequate to protect the spent fuel rods from an aircraft terrorist attack. A large plane can easily penetrate the metal building over the fuel pool."

None of us thought terrorists would attack these United States. They did. They will again, and Oyster Creek is a good target. There are cracks in the Reactor Building requiring periodic monitoring by plant structural engineers. Is anyone monitoring these engineers to be certain that they are doing their job? .

- *Asbury Park Press, March 17, 2004, page A1: Nuclear Plant Faulted for Cable Failure.* "FEDERAL inspectors increase oversight after finding workers for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time in 8 years, had failed to notice a power line ruined by water."

At every meeting I've attended, Oyster Creek's spokespeople tout how their workers are responsible professionals and keep a safe environment. Apparently some problems slip through the cracks. I am shocked that the NCR did not assess a penalty for this mistake and that the federal government has to 'babysit' AmerGen employees and the plant.

- *Ocean County Observer, March 30, 2004: "Whether a commercial plane hits the Reactor Building, or a large bomb is detonated nearby, the current amount of concrete barriers will not prevent disaster. It would cause internal pipes and other machinery to buckle, and cracks would form."* In addition, this article states, "there are no-fly zones designated around Disneyland in California, but not nuclear plants".

Mr. Ridge, I do hope you give your input to the Oyster Creek license extension issue. In general, nuclear plants are a very real threat, and especially Oyster Creek, given its age and structural problems.. I drive by this plant on a daily basis and it doesn't seem very safe to me. Yes, sometimes there is a government-looking vehicle and men in camouflage sitting in front of the plant, but not always and sometimes they don't even look like they are awake!

And what's the alternative to Oyster Creek? If Oyster Creek shuts down, a load-following natural gas power plant will likely replace it, operated with less than 35 people, and pose an insignificant risk to the surrounding population.

Although we live in a gambling state, my family and I do not want to gamble with our lives.

I respectfully thank you for reading my letter and would very much appreciate a reply from each one of you. My address, phone number, and email are above.

Sincerely,



Joanie M. Parks

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GREETING  
FROM  
Far Far Away



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