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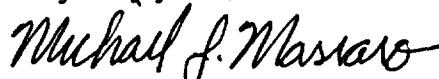
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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Washington, DC 20555

Subject: Oyster Creek Generating Station
Docket 50-219
Sea Turtle Incidental Capture Report 2004-2

This report provides detailed information regarding the recent incidental capture of a juvenile Kemp's ridley sea turtle at the Oyster Creek Generating Station. The turtle was captured alive during the afternoon of July 11, 2004 after it was removed from the dilution 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, feeding and eventual 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
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National Marine Fisheries Service Northeast Region
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IE23

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Regulatory Assurance File No. 04024

OYSTER CREEK GENERATING STATION

Sea Turtle Incidental Capture Report 2004-2

At approximately 1422 hours on Sunday July 11, 2004, an Oyster Creek Generating Station (OCGS) operator preparing to perform a routine cleaning of the trash racks noticed a sea turtle swimming in the water immediately upstream of the trash racks in Bay # 5 of the dilution water intake structure. The turtle appeared briefly at the water surface before diving out of sight. In accordance with OCGS procedures, operators immediately initiated efforts to retrieve the turtle as rapidly and gently as possible. OCGS Environmental personnel who took custody of the turtle confirmed it to be a juvenile Kemp's ridley sea turtle (Lepidochelys kempi). The water temperature at the time of the incidental capture was approximately 81.5 F (27.5 C) and OCGS was in operation at 100% power with four circulating water pumps and two dilution pumps in operation. Although it is impossible to say precisely how long the turtle had been swimming in the area of the trash bars prior to removal, the dilution water trash racks had been inspected earlier the same day at 1315 hours. The turtle was not observed during that trash rack inspection.

The turtle measured 8.8 in (22.3 cm) carapace length straight line and weighed 4 lb (1.8 kg). Some very minor scrapes were observed on the ventral surface of the carapace. No external tags were present on the turtle when captured. USNRC and NMFS personnel were notified of the capture within 24 hours on July 11, 2004.

The turtle was taken to the Marine Mammal Stranding Center (MMSC) in Brigantine, NJ at approximately 1623 hours on July 11, 2004. At the MMSC, the turtle was examined, held to ensure it was feeding well. The turtle was released two days later to a safe location off of Brigantine, NJ.