



SECRETARY

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

February 27, 2006

DOCKETED
USNRC

March 1, 2006 (9:28am)

OFFICE OF SECRETARY
RULEMAKINGS AND
ADJUDICATIONS STAFF

SERVED March 1, 2006

Docket No. 50-219-LR

The Honorable Michael J. Panter
Assemblyman, 12th District
167 Avenue of the Common
Suite 7
Shrewsbury, NJ 07702

Dear Assemblyman Panter:

I am responding to your letter to Chairman Nils J. Diaz, dated February 15, 2006, in which you urge the Commission to hold a public hearing on the license renewal application for the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station. You express your strong support for the petition filed by the coalition of public interest groups and indicate an awareness of the hearing request filed by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

Under Nuclear Regulatory Commission procedural rules for adjudications, the Commission has an appellate role in proceedings commenced before its Atomic Safety and Licensing Boards. Because of that role, I trust that you will understand that all members of the Commission must remain impartial during the pendency of a case, whether it is before a Licensing Board or on appeal to the Commission, and that it would be inappropriate for any of them to discuss or comment on issues involved in this matter.

A copy of your letter and this response will be placed on the Oyster Creek hearing docket and served on the parties to the proceeding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Annette L. Vietti-Cook".

Annette L. Vietti-Cook

cc: Service List



8436/344

NEW JERSEY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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MICHAEL J. PANTER
ASSEMBLYMAN

COMMITTEES:
ENVIRONMENT AND
SOLID WASTE
FINANCIAL/INSURANCE
VICE CHAIR
TRANSPORTATION

February 15, 2006

Chairman Nils J. Diaz, Ph.D.
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852

Re: Proposed Renewal of the Operating License for Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station

VIA FAX AND MAIL

Dear Chairman Diaz:

I am writing to urge you to hold a public hearing on the license renewal for the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station in Lacey Township. I strongly support the petition filed by a coalition of public interest groups on the issue of corrosion in a safety critical reactor component. In addition, I understand that the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has requested a hearing on three other safety issues.

I realize that the NRC has contended that a public hearing is not required, but in light of the concerns of the State and of its citizens, I believe a hearing is essential. We must assure the public that the critical safety protections at this reactor are currently effective and will remain so for another 20 years before renewing its license.

The state and its citizens are expressing a single message: the only way to provide the assurance we need is through a public hearing on all of the important issues that have been raised. This would allow all those who are concerned about the potential relicensing to present their arguments in an open forum. I urge you to see that this request is granted.

Please contact Kerri Danskin in my office with any questions you might have or new information which may be useful for us. Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Panter
Assemblyman, 12th District

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of)
)
AMERGEN ENERGY COMPANY, LLC) Docket No. 50-219-LR
)
)
(Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station))

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing LETTER FROM ANNETTE L. VIETTI-COOK TO ASSEMBLYMAN PANTER RESPONDING TO HIS 02/15/06 LETTER (ALSO ENCLOSED) REGARDING THE OYSTER CREEK PROCEEDING have been served upon the following persons by U.S. mail, first class, or through NRC internal distribution.

Office of Commission Appellate
Adjudication
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Administrative Judge
E. Roy Hawkens, Chair
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel
Mail Stop - T-3 F23
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Administrative Judge
Paul B. Abramson
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel
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Administrative Judge
Anthony J. Baratta
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel
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Ann P. Hodgdon, Esq.
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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

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Docket No. 50-219-LR
LETTER FROM ANNETTE L. VIETTI-COOK TO
ASSEMBLYMAN PANTER RESPONDING TO
HIS 02/15/06 LETTER (ALSO ENCLOSED) REGARDING
THE OYSTER CREEK PROCEEDING

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Nuclear Information
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Bradley M. Campbell, Commissioner
New Jersey Department of
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P.O. Box 402
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Ron Zak
New Jersey Department of
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Nuclear Engineering
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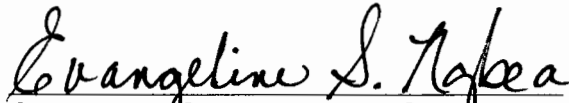
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Office of the Secretary of the Commission

Dated at Rockville, Maryland
this 1st day of March 2006