

2130-06-20281
March 8, 2006

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

Oyster Creek Generating Station
Facility Operating License No. DPR-16
NRC Docket No. 50219

Subject: Response to NRC Request for Additional Information Regarding the Environmental License Renewal Review for the Oyster Creek Generating Station (TAC No. MC7625)

Reference: Letter, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (M. T. Masnik) to AmerGen Energy Company, LLC, (C. N. Swenson), dated December 8, 2005, "Request for Additional Information (RAI) Regarding the Environmental License Renewal for the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station (TAC No. MC7625)"

Enclosed, as requested in the referenced letter, are responses to the RAI associated with the environmental review related to the AmerGen Energy Company, LLC (AmerGen), Oyster Creek Generating Station License Renewal Application.

With respect to Question 2 (Provide available information on AmerGen's evaluation of wetlands restoration as a compliance alternative to closed-cycle cooling), AmerGen is not aware of any available information concerning wetlands restoration as a compliance alternative to closed-cycle cooling.

If you have any questions, please contact Bill Maher at 610-765-5939 or Fred Polaski, Manager License Renewal, at 610-765-5935.

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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

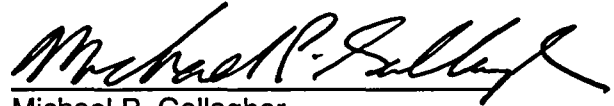
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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Respectfully,

Executed on 03-08-2006



Michael P. Gallagher
Vice President, License Renewal
AmerGen Energy Company, LLC

Enclosure: Response to Request for Additional Information

cc: Regional Administrator, USNRC Region I, w/o Enclosure
USNRC Project Manager, NRR - License Renewal, Environmental, w/Enclosure
USNRC Project Manager, NRR - License Renewal, Safety, w/o Enclosure
USNRC Project Manager, NRR - Project Manager, OCGS, w/o Enclosure
USNRC Senior Resident Inspector, OCGS, w/o Enclosure
Bureau of Nuclear Engineering, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Karen Tuccillo, NJ BNE (w/Enclosure)
File No. 05040

Enclosure

Response to Request for Additional Information

Request (1):

Provide a summary of any studies that evaluate the environmental impacts of closed-cycle cooling for OCGNS. This request includes historical studies that were performed earlier as well as any studies that were conducted specifically in response to the draft New Jersey Pollution Discharge Elimination System permit. If studies are ongoing, then provide a summary of their status and when the results will be available to the staff.

Answer to Request (1):

Attachment 1 contains the requested information.

Attachment 1 contains:

GPU (GPU Nuclear Corporation). Update of Alternate Cooling Water System Study for Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station, Volume 1, Technical and Economic Evaluation, August 1992.

GPU (GPU Nuclear Corporation). Update of Alternate Cooling Water System Study for Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station, Volume 2, Environmental Effects and Cost Analyses, August 1992.

AmerGen (AmerGen Energy Company, LLC). Determination of Cooling Tower Availability for Oyster Creek Generating Station, March 2006.

Request (2):

Provide available information on AmerGen's evaluation of wetlands restoration as a compliance alternative to closed-cycle cooling.

Answer to Request (2):

AmerGen is not aware of any such information.

Request (3):

Provide any assessments of the environmental issues using the issue categories enumerated in Table B-1 of Appendix B to Subpart A of 10 CFR Part 51 for cooling tower systems during normal operation.

Request (4):

The staff believes that impacts associated with the construction of a closed-cycle cooling system would need to be assessed in Chapter 8 of the Oyster Creek license renewal SEIS along with the impacts of operation. It is quite likely that some or all of the construction would be performed during the renewal period. Provide any assessments of the environmental issues related to construction of cooling tower systems using the issues categories enumerated in Table B-1 of Appendix B to Subpart A of 10 CFR Part 51 for refurbishment impacts for major components as a guide.

Answers to Requests (3) and (4):

Attachment 2 provides the response to Requests (3) and (4).

Attachment 1

GPU (GPU Nuclear Corporation). Update of Alternate Cooling Water System Study for Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station, Volume 1, Technical and Economic Evaluation, August 1992.

GPU (GPU Nuclear Corporation). Update of Alternate Cooling Water System Study for Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station, Volume 2, Environmental Effects and Cost Analyses, August 1992.

AmerGen (AmerGen Energy Company, LLC). Determination of Cooling Tower Availability for Oyster Creek Generating Station, March 2006.