

June 13, 2006

Ms. Dorothy Guzzo
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Historic Preservation Office
P.O. Box 404
Trenton, NJ 08625-0404

SUBJECT: OYSTER CREEK NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION LICENSE RENEWAL
APPLICATION REVIEW (TAC NO. MC7625) (HPO-J2004-7021)

Dear Ms. Guzzo:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff is reviewing an application to renew the operating license for Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station (Oyster Creek), which is located on the western shore of Barnegat Bay, in Forked River, New Jersey. Oyster Creek is operated by AmerGen Energy Company, LLC. As part of its review of the proposed action, the NRC staff has prepared a site-specific Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) to its "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants" (GEIS), NUREG-1437. The SEIS includes analyses of relevant environmental issues, including potential impacts to historic, archaeological and cultural properties from refurbishment activities associated with license renewal, for the extended period of operation. In accordance with our letter to you dated October 12, 2005, a copy of the draft supplement is enclosed. Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.8, we are requesting your comments on the draft supplement and on our preliminary conclusions regarding historic properties.

As stated in our October 12, 2005, letter the NRC staff has determined that the area of potential effect (APE) for a license renewal action is the area at the power plant site and its immediate environs which may be impacted by post-license renewal land disturbing operation or projected refurbishment activities associated with the proposed action. The staff views the APE for the Oyster Creek license renewal as including the Oyster Creek site and the immediate environs.

The NRC staff has conducted an environmental audit at the site, and has reviewed historic and archaeological records. The NRC staff also contacted four Native American Tribes identified as having potential interest in the proposed undertaking. To date, no comments have been received.

In the context of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 under which the draft environmental impact statement was prepared, the NRC staff's preliminary determination is that the impact of license renewal on historical and archaeological resources is SMALL and additional mitigation is not warranted. Under the provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the NRC staff's preliminary determination is that there will be no historic properties affected for the proposed action.

D. Guzzo

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Please note that the period for public comment expires on September 8, 2006. If your office requires additional time, or if there are any other questions regarding this correspondence, please have your representative contact the Environmental Project Manager, Dr. Michael Masnik, at 301-415-1191 or by e-mail at MTM2@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Rani Franovich, Branch Chief
Environmental Branch B
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-219

cc: See next page

D. Guzzo

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Please note that the period for public comment expires on September 8, 2006. If your office requires additional time, or if there are any other questions regarding this correspondence, please have your representative contact the Environmental Project Manager, Dr. Michael Masnik, at 301-415-1191 or by e-mail at MTM2@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Rani Franovich, Branch Chief
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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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cc: See next page

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Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station -2-

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