AmerGen SM
An Exelon Company

Timothy S. Rausch
Site Vice President

Oyster Creek Generating Station
US Route 9 South
P. O. Box 388
Forked River, NJ 08731

Telephone 609.971.2300
Fax 609.971.4730
www.exeloncorp.com
timothy.rausch@exeloncorp.com

2130-07-20493
April 27, 2007

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

Oyster Creek Generating Station
Facility License No. DPR-16
Docket No. 50-219

Subject: Deviation from BWR Vessel and Internals Project (BWRVIP) Guideline – Core Shroud

Reference: BWRVIP-76, "BWR Vessel and Internals Project, BWR Core Shroud Inspection and Flaw Evaluation Guidelines," TR-114232, dated November 1999

Oyster Creek Generating Station (OCGS) is a member of the BWR Vessel and Internals Project (BWRVIP) and has committed to implementing BWRVIP products and to providing timely notification to the NRC staff if an applicable BWRVIP product will not be implemented. During a focused area self-assessment of the OCGS reactor and internals program, a deviation from BWRVIP-76 inspection requirements for the shroud vertical welds was identified.

Specifically, shroud vertical welds V-3, V-4, V-15, and V-16 received a baseline examination in 1R18 (2000). The baseline examination included a visual (EVT-1) examination from the Outer Diameter (O.D.) surface of the shroud since the Inner Diameter (I.D.) surfaces at these weld locations are not accessible due to obstructions. Per the BWRVIP-76 re-inspection guidelines (Section 3.3, "Vertical Welds In Repaired Shrouds," and Figure 3.3, "Acceptance Standards and Inspection Intervals for Inspection of Vertical Welds in Repaired Shrouds"), a one-sided visual examination technique requires reexamination in 6 years as compared to a two-sided visual or volumetric technique, which can achieve a 10-year reexamination frequency. Contrary to this requirement, the four (4) vertical welds were not reexamined in 1R21 (2006) as required by the BWRVIP-76 guidance for single-sided examination.

The baseline inspection (1R18 - 2000) of shroud vertical welds V-3, V-4, V-15, and V-16 identified no indications. Additionally, the OCGS core shroud has not observed any significant cracking of the shroud vertical welds in the beltline region. There is no reason to believe that cracking would have developed in non-beltline welds V-3, V-4, V-15, or V-16 over the past 6 years, or for the two (2) additional years until the next refueling outage (2008). OCGS began noble metals chemical addition in 2002. No new crack initiation or crack growth would be expected during this two (2) additional years. These vertical welds are scheduled to be inspected in the 2008 outage. This letter is being transmitted for information only and is not requesting any action from the NRC staff.

If you should have any questions, please contact Mr. Tom Loomis at 610-765-5510.

Very truly yours,

Timothy S. Rausch
Vice President
Oyster Creek Generating Station

cc: S. J. Collins, USNRC, Administrator, Region I
J. Hughey, USNRC, Project Manager, Oyster Creek
M. S. Ferdas, USNRC, Senior Resident Inspector, Oyster Creek
NRC BWRVIP Project Manager
R. Stark - BWRVIP
File No. 06039