Marjorie McLaughlin

From: Sent:

Marjorle McLaughlin , R I

To:

Tuesday, October 07, 2008 1:48 PM

Subject:

hfinlay@njleg.org **Oyster Creek status**

Heather,

I hope this is getting to you soon enough. The bottom line on Oyster Creek is that we are waiting for a decision by the Commissioners, below, I tried to summarize where things stand. Call me if you need anything further,

Marjorie

The current NRC operating license for Oyster Creek expires on April 9, 2009. AmerGen submitted a license renewal application to the NRC on July 22, 2005. This application, and associated contentions, remain under review by the Commission.

Before a decision on the license renewal can be reached, the following issues must be resolved:

- 1. After AmerGen submitted its license renewal application to the NRC, a group (collectively called "Citizens") filed a contention relating to AmerGen's planned frequency for conducting certain inspections of the drywell liner. In December 2007, the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board issued its initial decision in AmerGen's favor. The Citizens group appealed this decision, and the Board is now considering this issue.
- 2. The Citizens group has also filed an appeal of the Board's July 2008 decision to reject a late-filed contention on metal fatigue. This appeal is being considered by the Commission.

In addition, there had been an open petition to the Commission from various stakeholder groups, requesting that the NRC suspend the license renewal proceedings for Vermont Yankee, Oyster Creek, Pilgrim, and Indian Point because of concerns raised by the NRC Office of the Inspector General in an audit of the NRC's license renewal program. The OIG determined that NRC staff documentation relating to license renewal should be improved to more clearly state what materials were reviewed and how the staff arrived at its conclusions. Yesterday, October 6, 2008, the Commission denied this petition.

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