

EDO Principal Correspondence Control

FROM: DUE: 02/04/10

EDO CONTROL: G20100024
DOC DT: 05/04/09
FINAL REPLY:

Rosalind Casey
Carteret, New Jersey

TO:

President Obama

FOR SIGNATURE OF :

** GRN **

CRC NO: 10-0018

Leeds, NRR

DESC:

Oyster Creek Nuclear Power Plant
(EDATS: SECY-2010-0038)

ROUTING:

Borchardt
Virgilio
Mallett
Ash
Mamish
Burns/Rothschild
Collins, RI
Baggett, OEDO

DATE: 01/14/10

ASSIGNED TO:

CONTACT:

NRR

Leeds

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

Close out response to be provided via email to
Sheila McKelvin, SECY to forward to the White House
Correspondence Section.

Template: SECY-017

E-RIDS: SECY-01

EDATS

Electronic Document and Action Tracking System

EDATS Number: SECY-2010-0038

Source: SECY

General Information

Assigned To: NRR

OEDO Due Date: 2/4/2010

Other Assignees:

SECY Due Date: 2/4/2010

Subject: Oyster Creek Nuclear Power Plant

Description:

CC Routing: RegionI

ADAMS Accession Numbers - Incoming: NONE

Response/Package: NONE

Other Information

Cross Reference Number: G20100024, LTR-10-0018

Staff Initiated: NO

Related Task:

Recurring Item: NO

File Routing: EDATS

Agency Lesson Learned: NO

OEDO Monthly Report Item: NO

Process Information

Action Type: Letter

Priority: Medium

Sensitivity: None

Signature Level: NRR

Urgency: NO

Approval Level: No Approval Required

OEDO Concurrence: NO

OCM Concurrence: NO

OCA Concurrence: NO

Special Instructions: Close out response to be provided via email to Sheila McKelvin, SECY to forward to the White House Correspondence Section.

Document Information

Originator Name: Rosalind F. Casey

Date of Incoming: 5/4/2009

Originating Organization: Citizens

Document Received by SECY Date: 1/13/2010

Addressee: President Obama

Date Response Requested by Originator: NONE

Incoming Task Received: Letter

DOE

May 4, 2009 Monday

Dear President Barack Obama:

Never wrote to a President
before, but I consider this something
serious.

Did contact everyone from the
bottom up as of this writing.

This concerns Oyster Creek
Nuclear Power Plant!

Did write to some one in
Washington, D. C. to get this

20

information to Leon Jackson, also
contacted D.E.P. N.J.

I belong to N.J. Environmental
Federation & worked with the environment, &
for at least four years many of us
have been trying to get this shut down.

You know the rest! Do not
wish to get anyone in trouble
by according to this article, radioactive
material found in wells at Crystal Creek
are just fine according to them & no harm
done!

3 (Love Carol)

Do know Lois Gibbs, Emergency's
Back yard + have many articles on
Nuclear Power Plants + to me this is
a disaster ready to happen.

I should not state this but do
call "Chernobyl"!

Guess I am expecting a Miracle
to happen!

My daughter + grandson reside
in this area and many other people +
me are at risk!

Thanking you very
much
Rosalind J. Casey
125 George St. Cartnet. N.J. 07008

Dining with the stars

While he sometimes grouches about the press coverage he gets at home, **Gov. Jon Corzine** has been a darling of the national media in recent months — appearing regularly on MSNBC and CNBC in particular. So it came as no surprise that the governor is listed as a VIP guest at the annual White House Correspondents' Association dinner in Washington, D.C. on May 9.

The event at the Washington Hilton is expected to draw 2,000 politicians, journalists and celebrities. The guests range from movie star **Ben Affleck** to President Obama, who is expected to follow tradition and perform a comedy routine.

Corzine will be sitting not with NBC, but at the CBS table — along with Affleck, Environmental Protection Agency Administrator **Lisa Jackson** (formerly Corzine's chief of staff), former secretary of state **Colin Powell** and other luminaries, according to the network's guest list.

On May 13, Corzine is also expected to attend the Statehouse version of the media mock-fest: the annual dinner and show hosted by the Legislative Correspondents Club. His aides did not respond to requests for comment late Friday.

NEW JERSEY

Radioactive material found in wells at Oyster Creek

By **TODD B. BATES**
Gannett New Jersey

Radioactive tritium has contaminated four monitoring wells at the Oyster Creek nuclear power plant in Lacey, but the isotope has not been detected beyond the plant, according to a federal official and plant spokesman.

The tritium levels found in the wells were up to 300 times higher than the government limits allowed for drinking water.

"It's just kind of scary," said Michele Nelsen of Waretown, a property manager who lives about 3 miles from the plant. "I mean basically, we're like the guinea pigs here. This

is the oldest (nuclear) power plant in the country that's relicensed, so we're like the test site."

But Neil A. Sheehan, a spokesman for the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, which oversees the plant, said, "There's no indication there's any (contamination escaping) to the environment."

The tritium was found leaking from holes in two pipes at the plant, said David Benson, a plant spokesman. Oyster Creek has located and stopped both leaks, he said. More inspections will be pursued.

The plant, shut down since Saturday because of a failed transformer, dis-

covered tritium contamination in a concrete vault near its turbine building earlier this month. It also found tritium in a monitoring well and three additional wells that were drilled recently, according to NRC and plant officials.

The 636-megawatt plant, which generates enough

power for 600,000 homes, is the oldest in the nation.

Tritium is a naturally occurring, radioactive form of hydrogen that is produced when cosmic rays hit air molecules. It's found at very low or trace levels in groundwater worldwide and also is a by-product of nuclear power plants.

Tritium leak kept to A-plant

LACEY — Environmental experts and Exelon Corp. engineers have confirmed that an elevated level of radioactive tritium found in water at Oyster Creek Generating Station on April 15 was confined to the plant site.

The tritium level — 102,000 picocuries per liter — was five times higher than the federal Environmental Protection Agency limit for drinking water. A picocurie is a measure of radioactivity.

Tritium is a low-level radiation emitter that is used commercially to make luminous dials and instruments.

— Wire-service reports

LACEY TOWNSHIP Nuclear plant officials probing possible leak

Operators of the Oyster Creek nuclear power plant say they are investigating possible release of a low-level radioactive substance this week.

Officials at the plant told the Nuclear Regulatory Commission that detectable levels of tritium were found in a cable vault while workers were replacing a cable to an emergency service water pump on Wednesday.

They said no release seems to be occurring, but the source of tritium water was not known.

Tritium occurs naturally in the environment at very low levels and may be released as steam from facilities such as nuclear reactors.

It also can leak into soil and ground water.

The Lacey facility, which is the

L.H. N.J. 4/21/09 - 14 PM 15th
 nation's oldest nuclear power plant, was granted a new 20-year operating license earlier this month by the NRC.

Wyeth gets OK on drug

Wyeth Pharmaceuticals said the European Commission has granted n drug t eop- t in-

reted

ized tural lead-

ased is 20 l life- the

eno-

gula- se as usal

— Susan Todd

Power plant still closed

The Oyster Creek nuclear power plant remains shut down for maintenance after power was lost to one of the plant's two transformers Saturday night.

Plant spokesman David Benson

could not confirm when the plant plans to reopen, or the expected time for repairs, but said it will use the time for additional summer maintenance when power demand typically peaks.

No brownouts or blackouts have been reported since the 6 p.m. shutdown, and no radiation was released.

PJM Interconnection, the overseer of the regional electric grid said power has been diverted from other locations to make up the difference.

Oyster Creek, in Lacey Township, opened in 1969 and is the nation's oldest nuclear power plant. It is operational about 85 percent of the time in a given year, Benson said, which is close to the national average. "When we finish these repairs, our station will be in a good position to be reliable for the summer when people need energy the most," he said.

— Danny Teigman

4/22/09 Home News
 Wed. Tribune, NJ

Elevated tritium levels in Oyster Creek water

By TODD B. BATES
 Gannett New Jersey
 Home News Tribune
 4/22/09 - 14 PM 15th
 the plant and other issues.

Benson noted the water is not used for drinking, and "this is not a public or employee safety issue. We found something here, and that's our environmental stewardship. We reported immediately to the state."

The tritium level — 102,000 picocuries per liter — is five times higher than the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency limit for drinking water. A picocurie is a measure of radioactivity.

Other sources of tritium include commercial nuclear reactors and research reactors, and government weapons production plants, the Web site says. Tritium may be released as steam from these facilities or may leak into the underlying soil and ground water. But such releases are usually small and are required not to exceed federal limits.

Exposure to tritium increases the risk of developing cancer. Yet tritium emits very low energy radiation and leaves the body relatively quickly and is one of the least dangerous radionuclides, the Web site says.

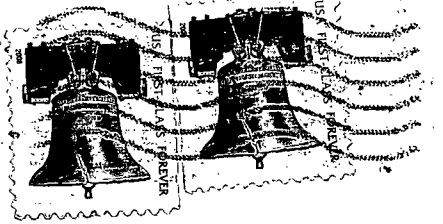
"There was no discharge... or release of tritium on the state's soil or into the waters," said David Benson, an Oyster Creek spokesman.

"Our experts... are working to determine how that tritium might have entered a concrete vault at the plant, according to Benson and a plant statement.

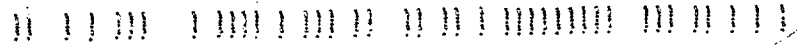
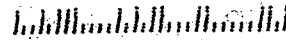
The tritium discovery came a week after the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission renewed Oyster Creek's operating license until April 2029, following a yearslong fight with opponents over the condition of a corroded steel radiation barrier at

Rosalind F. Casey
125 George St.
Cartersville, NJ
07008

DVD P&DC
KEARNY NJ 07030
04 MAY 2009 PM 1 L



White House Office
Honorable President Barack Obama
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington D. C. 20500



✓ #179 ✓

SG

JUL 0 2 2009