JCP&L / GPU

Jersey Central Power & Light Company
Madison Avenue at Punch Bowl Road
Morristown, New Jersey 07960
(201) 455-8200

November 30, 1979

Mr. Boyce H. Grier, Director
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Region I
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

Dear Mr. Grier:

Subject: Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station
Docket No. 50-219
Licensee Event Report
Reportable Occurrence No. 50-219/79-40/3L-0

This letter forwards three copies of a Licensee Event Report to report Reportable Occurrence No. 50-219/79-40/3L-0 in compliance with paragraph 6.6.1.a of the Technical Specifications.

Very truly yours,

Donald A. Ross

Donald A. Ross, Manager
Generating Stations-Nuclear

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Enclosures

cc: Director (40 copies)
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Director (3 copies)
Office of Management and Program Analysis
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

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OYSTER CREEK NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION
Forked River, New Jersey 08731

Licensee Event Report
Reportable Occurrence No. 50-219/79-40/3L-0

Report Date

November 30, 1979

Occurrence Date

November 2, 1979

Identification of Occurrence

Violation of the Technical Specifications, paragraph 4.5.K.1.a(2), which requires surveillance testing of the Standby Gas Treatment System charcoal filters for radioactive methyl iodine removal efficiency at 18-month intervals. This event is considered to be a reportable occurrence as defined in the Technical Specifications, paragraph 6.9.2.b.3.

Conditions Prior to Occurrence

The plant was operating at steady state power. The major plant parameters at the time of the occurrence were:

Power:	Reactor, 1768.4 MWt
	Generator, 602 MWe
Flow:	Recirculation, 14.5×10^4 gpm
	Feedwater, 6.6×10^6 lbm/hr
Stack Gas:	3.5×10^4 µCi/sec

Description of Occurrence

On Friday, November 2, 1979, during an NRC audit of surveillance testing records, it was noted that the Standby Gas Treatment System charcoal filters were not being tested in full compliance with Section 4.5.K.4.a of the Technical Specifications. Specifically, the Technical Specifications require that the filters be tested for both methyl iodide and halogenated hydrocarbon removal efficiency. Contrary to these requirements, only testing for halogenated hydrocarbons had been performed during the previous surveillance interval (July 1977 to January 1979).

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One sample filter cartridge was removed from each filter train and was tested for methyl iodide removal efficiency. The testing, which was completed on November 27, 1979, demonstrated removal efficiencies of 97.5% for filter train #1 and 92.8% for filter train #2.

It should be noted that the requirements for methyl iodide removal efficiency testing became effective March 22, 1976. Modifications to the system were made in July 1977 and adequate methyl iodide removal capability was demonstrated at that time.

Apparent Cause of Occurrence

The cause of this event is attributed to personnel error for failure to include the methyl iodide removal efficiency testing on the Master Surveillance Test Schedule and in plant procedures.

Analysis of Occurrence

The safety significance of the missed surveillance test is considered minimal since the methyl iodide removal efficiency testing yielded satisfactory results. It should be noted that the halogenated hydrocarbon and methyl iodide removal tests are both measures of the degree of filter depletion. Since the halogenated hydrocarbon testing indicated negligable filter depletion, a high degree of confidence existed that the methyl iodide removal efficiency was also negligably affected. Consequently, the Standby Gas Treatment System was considered operable.

Corrective Action

The methyl iodide removal efficiency testing has been added to the Master Surveillance Schedule and procedures will be modified to include the testing requirements.

Failure Data

Not applicable.