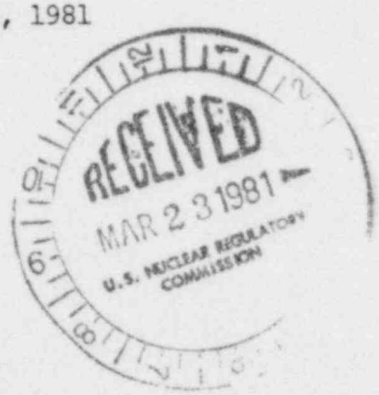
OYSTER CREEK **NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION**

JCP&L / GPU

Jersey Central Power & Light Company is a Member of the General Public Utilities System

(609) 693-6000 P.O. BOX 388 • FORKED RIVER • NEW JERSEY • 08731

March 16, 1981



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. 50-219/81-09/3L

This letter forwards three copies of a Licensee Event Report to report Reportable Occurrence No. 50-219/81-09/3L in compliance with paragraph 6.9.2.b.2 of the Technical Specifications.

Very truly yours,

Ivan R. Finfrock, Jr.

Ivan R. Finfrock, Jr.
Vice President - JCP&L
Director - Oyster Creek

IRF:dh
Enclosures

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

Director (3)
Office of Management Information
and Program Control
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

NRC Resident Inspector (1)
Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station
Forked River, N. J.

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OYSTER CREEK NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION
Forked River, New Jersey 08731

Licensee Event Report
Reportable Occurrence No. 50-219/81-09/3L

Report Date

March 16, 1981

Occurrence Date

February 13, 1981

Identification of Occurrence

A hydraulic snubber was found with its tell-tale indicator out of view and oil was discovered on the floor. The snubber was removed and tested, and it subsequently failed in the compression mode.

This event is considered to be a reportable occurrence as defined in the Technical Specifications, paragraph 6.9.2.b.2.

Conditions Prior to Occurrence

The plant was operating at steady state power.

Major Plant Parameters

Power:	Reactor	1834 MWt
	Generator	627 MWe
Flow:	Recirculation	15.1×10^4 gpm
	Feedwater	6.75×10^6 lb/hr

Description of Occurrence

During a NRC walk-around inspection, snubber 23/3 (serial number F93501 #7) was found with its tell-tale indicator out of view, and oil was discovered on the floor. The snubber was located on Containment Spray System II, in the southeast corner of the 23' elevation. The snubber was removed and subsequently tested, and it failed its test in the compression mode.

Apparent Cause of Occurrence

The cause of the occurrence was attributed to a broken down inner shaft seal. The snubber was disassembled, and the inner shaft seal was found partially deteriorated. Seal material apparently entered the hydraulic fluid and prevented the shaft from moving properly in the compression mode.

Analysis of Occurrence

Snubbers are installed to limit piping movement during seismic events and during transient conditions. The snubber pistons must also be free to move during normal operations and during a loss of coolant accident in order to compensate for thermal expansion and contraction of the piping system. Snubber 23/3 was located vertically on a 14 inch diameter pipe, and since it failed in the compression mode, it would not have performed its intended function for a downward piping movement during a seismic event. At the present time, the significance cannot accurately be determined until a complete investigation has been completed, including a stress analysis which models the piping system with snubber 23/3 failed in the compression mode. A revision to this report will be submitted when this analysis is complete.

Corrective Action

The snubber was replaced with an operable spare. Future corrective action will be to rebuild the snubber and retest it before it is released for installation or before it can be declared an "operable spare". A preliminary engineering evaluation, which recommends the replacement of all hydraulic snubbers with mechanical snubbers, has been completed and submitted for corporate engineering review.

Failure Data

Manufacturer - Bergen-Patterson Pipesupport Corp.
Model - HSSA-10 (max. 10,000 lbs. force)