

DEC 20 1989

Docket No. 50-219
EA No. 89-207

GPU Nuclear Corporation
ATTN: Mr. Eugene E. Fitzpatrick
Vice President and Director
Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station
P. O. Box 388
Forked River, New Jersey 08731

Gentlemen:

Subject: Enforcement Conference Findings Concerning The Emergency Service
Water Containment Spray System (ESW/CS).

The safety system functional inspection (SSFI), NRC Inspection Report No. 50-219/89-80 requested additional information to establish whether or not the plant had been operated with any parameters of the ESW/CS system outside the analyzed conditions. The principal concern was if plant operation had occurred with the ESW intake water (canal) temperature above 85°F and ESW system flow throttled without an engineering evaluation being performed to determine the effects of these conditions on the ESW/CS system capability to meet postulated accident conditions. We have reviewed the additional information presented by the GPUN staff during the December 5, 1989 enforcement conference at the NRC Region I office and related documentation obtained during the inspection. Based on this information, much of which was not presented to the NRC during the SSFI, we have concluded that plant operation above a canal temperature of 85°F with throttled ESW system flow occurred with adequate GPUN engineering analysis. Therefore, this issue does not warrant further enforcement action.

The SSFI report presents a number of weaknesses identified by the SSFI team, many of which your staff has acknowledged and for which you have initiated steps to cause improvement. Of these items we direct your attention to early resolution of the problem of translating system design basis information (including analyses and parameters as defined in 10 CFR 50.2) into plant technical specifications and procedures. Also, although Technical Functions (GPUN headquarters engineering) and plant staff have been shown to work together on numerous tasks, it appears that communications between technical support functions and plant departments, including operations and plant engineering, requires evaluation and improvement to allow the plant to make full use of Technical Functions' capabilities.

Your cooperation with us in this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

Marvin W. Hodges, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

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cc:

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