

October 4, 1994

Mr. John J. Barton
Vice President and Director
GPU Nuclear Corporation
Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station
Post Office Box 388
Forked River, NJ 08731

SUBJECT: EVALUATION OF THE REQUEST FOR RELIEF FROM NUREG-0619 FOR OYSTER
CREEK NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION (TAC NO. M85751)

Dear Mr. Barton:

The staff has reviewed and evaluated the information provided by GPU Nuclear Corporation (GPUN) in its letter dated June 20, 1994, related to Request for Relief from NUREG-0619, "BWR Feedwater Nozzle and Control Rod Return Drain Line Nozzle Cracking" for the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station (OCNGS) Inservice Inspection (ISI) program. The staff reviewed previous GPUN submittals and NRC correspondence on this topic dating to the early eighties.

GPUN requested the interval for inspection of feedwater (FW) and control rod drain return line (CRDRL) nozzles be lengthened to once every 10 years using an automated ultrasonic examination (UT) in lieu of dye penetrant examination (PT). Based on the information submitted and an independent staff analysis, the staff concludes that GPUN may use the linear phased-array UT technique in lieu of PT examination for the nozzles. In addition, the staff approves GPUN's proposal to perform the inspections of the FW and CRDRL nozzles with the linear phased-array UT technique at least once every 10-year period (120 months). The 10-year period began with the last inspection of the FW and CRDRL nozzles using the qualified linear phased-array technique, which was performed during the 14R outage (in 1993). The staff's evaluation and conclusions are contained in the enclosed safety evaluation.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Phillip F. McKee, Director
Project Directorate I-4
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Docket No. 50-219

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

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Vice President and Director

Oyster Creek Nuclear
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cc:

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