

GPU Nuclear
P.O. Box 388
Forked River, New Jersey 08731
609-693-6000
Writer's Direct Dial Number:

November 5, 1982

Mr. Dennis M. Crutchfield, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch No. 5
Division of Licensing
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Crutchfield:

Subject: Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station
Docket No. 50-219
Core Spray Sparger Inspection

Since the time the inspection was performed on the core spray spargers during the 1980 refueling outage, GPU Nuclear has conducted further evaluations on the video inspection tapes.

One method that has been utilized to improve our evaluation has been the use of image enhancement. An inspection service has been contracted to computer enhance inspection tapes to better define indications. Using the enhanced tape, a comparison between the enhanced and unenhanced images was performed. When the comparison was performed, the tape was viewed and interpretations were independently recorded by each member of a team of three (3) NDE qualified inspectors. The following classifications were used which are consistent with those used during the 1980 inspection:

1. Indication
2. Possible Indication
3. Not an Indication

After independent results were recorded, they were discussed and the tape was reviewed again. Attachment 1 shows the final interpretation by the team, concurred in by each member.

The video enhancement technique was performed utilizing the inspection service firm's equipment. Some of the enhancement features were video filtering, logarithmic input transfer which increases gain in dark areas to bring out shadow details, and dynamic range compression which aids the human eye in detecting low contrast, fine details.

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Mr. Dennis M. Crutchfield

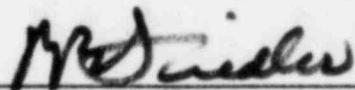
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Video enhancement will be employed to aid in interpreting visual examinations of the core spray spargers during the 1983 refueling outage. Based on this advanced inspection process, it is our considered opinion that the System I sparger which originally seemed to have five (5) indications now has no relevant indications. The System II sparger has three (3) relevant indications compared to the thirteen (13) initially interpreted. It is readily determinable from these results that the safety evaluation for the 1980 inspection was very conservative.

The purpose of providing this submittal is to keep you informed on developments concerning the installed core spray spargers at Oyster Creek. In the event that any comments or questions arise, please contact Mr. J. Knubel at (201) 299-2264.

Very truly yours,



Peter B. Fiedler
Vice President and Director
Oyster Creek

PBF:DH:lse
Attachment

cc: Mr. Ronald C. Haynes, Administrator
Region I
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406

NRC Resident Inspector
Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station
Forked River, NJ 08731

ATTACHMENT I

SYSTEM	AZIMUTH	1982 VISUAL CLASSIFICATION	1980 VISUAL Y/N
I	148°	3	Yes
I	151°	3	Yes
I	156°	3	Yes
I	251°-255°	3	Yes
I	328°	3	Yes
II	195°	2	Yes
II	185°	2	Yes
II	183°	1	Yes
II	165°	3	Yes
II	155°	3	Yes
II	152°	1	Yes
II	148°	3	Yes
II	146°	3	Yes
II	113°	3	Yes
II	5°	-	Yes (See Note A)
II	331°	3	Yes
II	328°	3	Yes
II	269°	1	Yes

- NOTES:
- A. Picture was not clear.
 - B. An enhanced examination of the 1978 inspection tape disclosing an indication at 208° in the System II sparger has confirmed it as a relevant indication.
 - C. As described in the cover letter, the classifications for the 1982 visual inspection are consistent with those used during the 1980 inspection. They are:
 - 1. Indication
 - 2. Possible Indication
 - 3. Not an Indication