

AUG 20 1990

Docket No. 50-219

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: Inspection No. 50-219/90-80

This letter transmits the results of the special training program team inspection led by Ms. Tracy Walker of this office from June 25 to July 10, 1990, at the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station in Forked River, New Jersey; and in the NRC Region I office in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania; and on May 14, 1990, at the Nine Mile Point Training Center, Scriba, New York. The team's findings were discussed with you and other members of your staff at the conclusion of the inspection on June 29, 1990, and in subsequent telephone calls with myself and other members of the NRC staff.

This inspection was in keeping with NRC policy as stated in the "Commission Policy Statement on Training and Qualification of Nuclear Power Plant Personnel" (as published in Federal Register 53 FR 46603), which states that the NRC will expand the method by which it monitors industry training programs by performing training program inspections at selected sites. Areas examined during this inspection are described in the enclosed NRC Region I inspection report. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observations by the inspectors.

The team made only limited conclusions about the design and implementation of your Systems Approach to Training (SAT) based operations training programs due to the incomplete status of the job task analyses for the positions reviewed. The NRC identified weaknesses in the areas of trainee evaluation and program evaluation of the operations training programs. The grading practices used in the licensed operator requalification program appeared to be inadequate in that grading was not always performed in accordance with the answer key and credit was given for incorrect answers. The methods in place for program evaluation do not ensure that a systematic method is used to evaluate the effectiveness of training programs and to revise the programs as required. These weaknesses are discussed in sections 2.4.2 and 2.5 of the enclosed report. We request that you respond, in writing, within 30 days of the receipt of this letter identifying actions taken or planned to address the identified weaknesses.

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Based on the results of this inspection, the NRC determined that the licensed operator requalification program failed to identify two licensed individuals who did not pass the comprehensive written examinations administered in 1989. These individuals performed licensed duties for a period in excess of one year prior to identification of the examination failures by the NRC. This apparent violation will be the subject of an enforcement conference.

Additionally, the team identified a concern regarding waivers for participation in licensed operator requalification examinations. It appears that the procedures governing the licensed operator requalification program do not always ensure that the operators meet the periodicity requirements of 10 CFR 55.59 for the completion of annual operating tests and biennial written examinations. The waiver of licensed operator requalification examinations is considered to be an unresolved item pending further review by the NRC.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the Commission's regulation, a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room. The response requested by this letter is not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, Public Law No. 96-511.

Your cooperation with us in this matter is appreciated. Should you have any questions, please contact Mr. R. Gallo, Chief, Operations Branch, Division of Reactor Safety, at (215) 337-5291.

Sincerely,

*Original Signed By.
Marvin W. Hodges*

Marvin W. Hodges, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

Enclosure: Inspection Report No. 50-219/90-80 and Appendices

cc w/encl.:

M. Laggart, BWR Licensing Manager
Licensing Manager, Oyster Creek
T. Mazour, Consultant
Public Document Room (PDR)
Local Public Document Room (LPDR)
Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)
NRC Resident Inspector
State of New Jersey

bcc w/encl.:

Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)

Management Assistant, DRMA (w/o encl)

R. Bellamy, DRSS

Section Chief, DRP

K. Abraham, PAO (20) SALP Report and (2) All Inspection Reports

J. Caldwell, EDO

A. Dromerick, Project Manager, NRR

R. Pelton, Training and Assessment Specialist, NRR

Cecil Thomas, DLPQE, NRR

K. Perkins, DLPQE, NRR

J. Wermeil, DLPQE, NRR

M. Hodges, DRS

R. Gallo, DRS

R. Conte, DRS

N. Blumberg, DRS

W. Baunack, DRS

T. Easlick, DRS

W. Oliveira, DRS

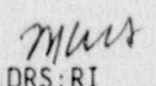
T. Walker, DRS

DRS Files (3)

DRS:RI
Walker/dmg
08/03/90
8/7/90

DRS:RI
Conte
08/7/90


DRS:RI
Gallo
08/16/90


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Hodges
08/20/90