UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

Docket File

December 13, 1990

Docket No. 50-219

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

Dear Mr. Fitzpatrick:

SUBJECT: GPU NUCLEAR CORPORATION PROPOSAL TO REPLACE INTERNAL DYE PENETRANT EXAMINATION OF THE FEEDWATER NOZZLES AND CONTROL ROD DRIVE RETURN NOZZLE WITH EXTERNAL ULTRASONIC EXAMINATIONS FOR OYSTER CREEK NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION (TAC NO. 75845)

The NRC staff has completed its review of GPU Nuclear Corporation's (licensee/GPUN) submittals dated January 18, 1990 and July 12, 1990. The licensee's submittals proposed during 13R refueling outage to replace internal dye penetrant (PT) examination of the Feedwater (FW) Nozzles, and Control Rod Drive Return (CRDR) Nozzle with external ultrasonic (UT) examinations for Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station (OCGNS). Additional information was provided during a review meeting on September 19, 1990, between the staff, and its contractor, Battelle, Pacific Northwest Laboratories, licensee, and Universal Testing Laboratories (UTL) (licensee's contractor) on the operation of the equipment to be used for the UT examination of the subject nozzles.

Based on the information and instruction provided by the licensee and licensee's contractor the staff finds the proposed FW and CRDR nozzle inspection acceptable for the 13R refueling outage provided:

1. Any surface indication detected by the phased array system and not proven to be geometric in nature will require that a liquid penetrant examination be performed that meets the requirements of Section XI.

2. The phased array system should demonstrate the capability to detect thermal fatigue cracks that are 0.172 inch in depth. The demonstration need not be a blind demonstration, as an example if data is available from other test (such as PISC II or past inservice inspection examinations) could be used to illustrate crack detection capability.

1/1

DF01
DF03

The staff's conclusions and recommendations are presented in the enclosed Safety Evaluation and NRC contractor's report on its review of the UTL Phased-Array UT inspection system.

Attached is a SALP related to the task. This action completes work to be performed by the Materials an Chemical Engineering Branch under TAC No. 75845.

Sincerely,

/S/

Alexander W. Dromerick, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate I-4
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosures:
As stated

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