

50-219

Harold F. Luce
Dir. of Reg. 7/16
10:30

RESPONSES TO INQUIRY ON OYSTER CREEK

1. Q. Jersey Central has issued a statement saying that its Oyster Creek plant will be held up from full power operation in order to meet AEC's requirements for further inspection of pipes and valves. Is this correct?

A. We have informed Jersey Central orally, and we will confirm in writing, that before we can authorize operation of the Oyster Creek plant beyond the presently-approved five thermal megawatt level additional non-destructive testing will be required on some piping in the engineered safety features inside the reactor coolant pressure boundary. This is within the dry well which encloses the reactor pressure vessel; it is part of the containment system. We also will require additional non-destructive testing of safety valves in the reactor coolant system.

Results of this non-destructive testing *will be inspected* ~~must be submitted~~

my ~~to the AEC Regulatory Staff for review and evaluation~~
before further consideration can be given to the application for a full-power operating license.

2. Q. Why are these requirements being imposed?

A. So that we can confirm that all piping and valves are adequate for operation of the plant at full power. We have been discussing the adequacy of piping and valves,

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Rec'd Off. Dir. of Reg.
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particularly those within the primary coolant pressure boundary with Jersey Central and General Electric for several months. On June 12 the company submitted amendment 53 to its application which stated the company's evaluation of piping and some of the valves. After careful consideration of that amendment and further discussions with the applicant, it was our judgment that additional non-destructive testing is necessary to assure the adequacy of the piping and valves.

3. Q. Does the same sort of situation apply to other plants?

A. We are looking further into the situation of piping and valves at other plants, but it is premature to comment at this time.

4. Q. Why has it taken so long to determine that additional testing is necessary?

A. This matter has been under discussion for some months. The amendment 53 on adequacy of piping and valves was filed on June 12 and we have been evaluating it since that time.

MEMO ROUTE SLIP

Form AEC-93 (Rev. May 14, 1947)

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