

DCS

JUL 19 1991

Docket No. 50-219

Mr. John J. Barton
Vice President and Director
GPU Nuclear Corporation
Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station
P.O. Box 388
Forked River, New Jersey 08731

Dear Mr. Barton:

SUBJECT: REQUALIFICATION PROGRAM EVALUATION AND RETAKE EXAMINATION,
OYSTER CREEK NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION (Examination Report
50-219/91-11 (OL))

From April 9 - 11, 1991, on June 14, 1991, and from June 20 - 21, 1991, the NRC conducted a requalification program evaluation of the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station. The evaluation was conducted in accordance with NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examiner Standards," Revision 6. The evaluation had two purposes: (1) to evaluate individual licensed operator competency, and (2) to evaluate the effectiveness of the licensed operator training program. At the conclusion of the evaluation, findings related to the preparation and administration of the requalification examination were discussed with those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report. In addition, on June 11, 1991, the NRC administered a retake written examination to the one operator who failed the written portion of the requalification examination on April 9, 1991.

As a result of this evaluation, the Oyster Creek requalification program continues to be satisfactory. The NRC results indicate that ten of the twelve operators examined passed the NRC administered requalification examination and all crews performed satisfactorily on the simulator portion of the examination. One operator failed the written examination on April 9, 1991, and subsequently passed the retake examination on June 11, 1991, and one operator failed the simulator portion of the examination.

Section 7 of the report documents NRC staff review of your actions to correct previously identified findings with respect to licensed operator training. From the results of this year's examination, your corrective actions apparently were effective.

Section 6 of the report documents NRC staff review of your medical records for licensed operators. Based on the results of this review, certain activities appeared to be in violation of NRC requirements, as specified in the enclosed Notice of Violation. The violation is of concern because medical examinations of licensed operators exceeded the time period of the regulation and your

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administrative program controls for licensed operator medical examinations were not adequate to assure that the NRC requirements were met. The NRC staff considered taking enforcement action against each of the individual operators. However, the NRC staff has decided not to pursue such individual enforcement actions because the violation is more attributable to the facility failure to assure that the examinations were conducted in a timely manner. You need to ensure that your employees who are NRC licensed operators understand that they are responsible for compliance with their license requirements. Therefore, they need to be aware of and adhere to general 10 CFR Part 55 requirements and limitations, such as the necessity for a physical examination every two years. You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room. The responses directed by this letter and the enclosed Notice are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, Pub. L. No. 96-511.

Should you have any questions, please contact Mr. R. Conte, Chief, BWR Section, at (215) 337-5210.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

Lee H. Bettenhausen, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Enclosure: Notice of Violation
Requalification Examination Report No. 50-219/91-11 (OL)
w/Attachments

cc w/encl ; w/o Attachments:

M. Laggart, BWR Licensing Manager
G. Busch, Licensing Manager, Oyster Creek
NRC Resident Inspector
State of New Jersey

cc w/encl. and Attachments:

J. Kowalski, Manager - Plant Training
G. Cropper, Operator Training Manager
J. Sullivan, Plant Operations Division
Public Document Room (PDR)
Local Public Document Room (LPDR)
Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)

bcc w/encl.; w/o Attachments:
 Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)
 Management Assistant, DRMA (w/o encl.; w/o Attachments)
 Chief, OLB, NRR
 J. Caldwell, EDO
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 Regional Coordinator, RI, EDO
 W. Ruland, DRP
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 L. Bettenhausen, DRS
 R. Conte, DRS
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 J. Beall, SRI, Beaver Valley
 OL Facility File
 DRS Files (3)

bcc w/encl. and Attachments:
 Master Exam File

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