

October 18, 1995

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

SUBJECT: ALTERNATIVE TO SERVICE WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE  
INSPECTION (SWSOPI) AT OYSTER CREEK

Dear Mr. Barton:

This letter is in response to your request to perform a self-assessment as an alternative to a SWSOPI conducted by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). Your letter of September 20, 1995, described a plan for assessment of the Oyster Creek emergency service water system (ESW), proposing a reduced scope based upon a previous NRC Safety System Functional Inspection (SSFI), conducted in September 1989.

During discussions on October 12, 1995, the GPU Nuclear (GPUN) staff presented additional information on the SWSOPI scope and methodology, and the makeup of the assessment and response teams. Based on our review, we have concluded that your self-assessment plan is acceptable subject to: (1) the NRC in-process and final inspections of your effort, and (2) GPUN's completion of the Oyster Creek self-assessment. Upon issuance of a final report, we would also request that you make a presentation of the self-assessment results to the NRC.

The NRC's pilot program to authorize licensee self-assessment in area-of-emphasis inspections is designed to minimize regulatory impact and to promote efficient use of NRC resources. However, as specified in Inspection Procedure 40501, "License Self-Assessments Related to Area-of-Emphasis Inspections," the NRC may elect not to reduce its normal inspection scope if significant weaknesses are identified in the self-assessment efforts.

Questions regarding your conduct of a self-assessment or the NRC's intended oversight may be directed to Mr. E. Kelly of my staff at (610) 337-5111. Your cooperation with us in this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

James T. Wiggins, Director  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No. 50-219

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Mr. John J. Barton

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cc:

G. Busch, Manager, Site Licensing, Oyster Creek  
M. Laggart, Manager, Corporate Licensing  
State of New Jersey

Mr. John J. Barton

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