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6000-96-2863
6730-96-2054
March 5, 1996

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

Gentlemen:

Subject: Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station (OCNGS)
Docket No. 50-219
Facility Operating License No. DPR-16
Evaluation of Thermo-Lag Fire Barriers

GPU Nuclear's letter to the NRC dated December 29, 1995 (C321-95-2363) provided the results of the evaluation of installed OCNGS Thermo-Lag fire barrier configurations. This evaluation was completed in accordance with previous commitments contained in GPU Nuclear letters to the NRC dated February 10, 1994 (C321-94-2012) and December 27, 1994 (C321-94-2279). The evaluation of the installed OCNGS Thermo-Lag fire barriers identifies those Thermo-Lag fire barriers which currently meet the requirements of Appendix R, Section III. G, and those barriers which do not meet Appendix R and will be modified to meet Appendix R or for which detailed requests for exemption from Appendix R, Section III.G are requested.

On January 5, 1996, GPU Nuclear received feedback from the NRC regarding a submittal made for our TMI-1 plant in May of 1995. This NRC response contained issues which apply to the approach and methodology utilized for evaluation of the installed OCNGS Thermo-Lag fire barriers and the technical basis supporting the OCNGS detailed requests for exemption. In order to support our schedule for Thermo-Lag evaluation submittals, GPU Nuclear had planned, as previously communicated in early 1995, to discuss the exemption process with NRC staff prior to the aforementioned TMI-1 submittal. The intent of this discussion was to obtain feedback and incorporate any NRC comments into our Thermo-Lag evaluations. The feedback which was received on January 5, 1996, was received too late for incorporation into the OCNGS Thermo-Lag evaluation submitted to the NRC on December 29, 1995.

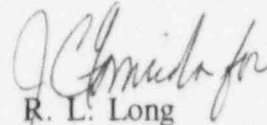
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GPU Nuclear presently plans to apply the recent NRC feedback and comments on the TMI-1 Thermo-Lag exemption request to the OCNGS Thermo-Lag evaluation, and fully address the identified concerns and provide the additional information where applicable to the OCNGS Thermo-Lag fire barrier evaluation submitted on December 29, 1995. GPU Nuclear plans to formally respond to the NRC comments on Thermo-Lag exemptions where applicable to the OCNGS Thermo-Lag evaluations as soon as practical following additional discussions with staff. We, therefore, request NRC not respond to the requests for exemptions contained in our December 29, 1995, letter until the revised evaluation is submitted.

GPU Nuclear is available to discuss any NRC questions or provide additional information related to the OCNGS Thermo-Lag fire barrier evaluations. If any additional information is needed, please contact Mr. David Distel, Engineer Sr. II at (201) 316-7955.

Sincerely,



R. L. Long

Vice President and Director,
Nuclear Services Division

RLG/DJD/gl

cc: Administrator, Region I
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