

July 8, 1992

Docket No. 50-219

Mr. John J. Barton
Vice President and Director
GPU Nuclear Corporation
Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station
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Dear Mr. Barton:

SUBJECT: SAFETY EVALUATION - REQUEST FOR RELIEF FROM SCHEDULE COMMITMENT TO IMPROVE IGSCC RESISTANCE OF ISOLATION CONDENSER PIPING, OYSTER CREEK NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, TAC. NOS. M41437 AND M41475.

The NRC staff has reviewed GPU Nuclear's (GPUN's) submittal of April 21, 1992. In its submittal, GPUN requested schedule relief from a previous commitment to perform stress improvement on certain non-isolatable Isolation Condenser piping. The stress improvement program is an open issue concerning intergranular stress corrosion cracking (IGSCC) of the subject piping. The staff requires two IGSCC mitigation measures to be performed in order to close the IGSCC issue. Although GPUN has replaced the originally installed type 316 stainless steel pipe with a more resistant material (nuclear grade type 316), the staff finds no other acceptable measure has been taken. GPUN claims that improved water chemistry controls provide a sufficient IGSCC mitigation measure for schedular relief. The staff finds this to be uncertain and thus inadequate. In a subsequent request for further information, the staff requested the outage planning workscope for review. GPUN's submittal (14R OUTAGE SCOPE, transmitted under letter C00C-92-1789, C321-92-2177, undated) did not provide any additional compelling justification for schedular relief. Therefore, GPUN's request for schedule relief to perform stress improvement is denied. Our enclosed Safety Evaluation provides the basis for this decision.

Sincerely,

/s/

John F. Stolz, Director
Project Directorate I-4
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/enclosure:
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