

CO
via Mosley
for Carlson

JUN 25 1968

Docket No. 50-219

Jersey Central Power & Light Company
Madison Avenue at Punch Bowl Road
Morristown, New Jersey 07960

Attention: Mr. John E. Logan
Vice President

Gentlemen:

We have followed the progress of your program on the repairs to the Oyster Creek pressure vessel since first learning of the cracks and weld defects in October 1967. During the course of our review of this program, we requested that two stub tubes be withheld from repair until the results of your investigation related to understanding the cause of the difficulties were available for our review. These two stub tubes are located in positions designated as S-3 and T-4 in Figure 1 of Amendment No. 35.

You have submitted some of the results of your investigative program. We also understand that additional investigative data on the overall vessel difficulties, which we have discussed with representatives of Jersey Central in recent meetings, will be submitted in the near future. Our discussions and the data you have provided, along with the work program outlined in Amendment No. 37, have provided us with a basis on which we conclude that the two stub tubes can now be repaired subject to the actions described below.

The two stub tubes should be given a sensitive dye penetrant test and all crack indications recorded. Prior to and following removal of the field welds, careful dimensional measurements of the two stub tubes should be made. These measurements should include an axial traverse of the outside diameters of the stub tubes before and after the removal of the field welds. Measurements of the internal diameter of the stub tubes should be made after removal of the field weld. Spacing used for the axial traverse as well as the number of planes in which measurements are taken should be established and recorded so that a reasonable estimate of the strain relief following removal of the field weld can be made. These data as well as your evaluation of their significance should be submitted for our review.

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We are currently evaluating the necessity for a surveillance program to monitor the status of those reactor internals made of sensitized stainless steel. If required, this program would be expected to involve exposure of samples of stub tube material in the reactor. Because of the preliminary nature of our evaluation, the number, type and surface condition of the samples that might be required for such a program have not been established. We understand that some samples have already been taken from the various affected reactor internals; however, it is not clear that appropriate samples for a surveillance program are available. Therefore, we recommend that you assure yourself that an adequate supply of clad and unclad (free of 308L stainless steel weld metal) samples of stub tube material are available for a surveillance program before cladding operations on all of the stub tubes are completed.

Our conclusion to permit the repair of the remaining two stub tubes is not intended to imply approval of the repair activities that you have proposed. We understand that you recognize that any of this repair work is being performed at your own risk.

Sincerely yours,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY
Peter A. Morris

Peter A. Morris, Director
Division of Reactor Licensing

cc: George F. Trowbridge, Esq.
Shaw, Pittman, Potts,
Trowbridge & Madden

bcc: Craig S. Cheng
Metallurgy Division
Argonne National Laboratory

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See attached for concurrences.

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DATE ▶	6/25/68	6/25/68			