



UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE OF REGULATORY OPERATIONS
REGION I

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SEP 17 1973

J. P. Stohr, Senior, Environmental and Special Programs Section *JS*

REPORT FROM THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH ON AN ELEVATED AIR SAMPLE
IN THE VICINITY OF THE OYSTER CREEK FACILITY

On September 7, Dr. Dave McCurdy called me to report elevated levels of cobalt and manganese in an air sample which was located 1-1/4 miles south-east of the Oyster Creek facility. The air sample ran for one week in the period August 21-28. He reported a value for cobalt-60 as $2.6 \pm .04 \times 10^{-13}$ microcuries per cubic centimeter; for manganese-54, $1.2 \pm .03 \times 10^{-13}$ microcuries per cubic centimeter. No activity from iodine isotopes was found. These activities are about two orders of magnitude greater than what normally is found in air in the vicinity of the Oyster Creek facility.

I checked with Mr. John Sullivan from the Oyster Creek site and he reported that the release was due to work on control rods during this time frame and the release had been documented by examination of their stack filters. Using very conservative methods they estimated their release rate during this time frame to be on the order of .02 microcuries per second. Since the reported release rate and also the concentration found offsite is below allowable limits by several orders of magnitude, no other action is planned at this time. Mr. Ed Greenman, Region I Reactor Inspector for Oyster Creek, was notified of the incident by me.

RE
R. J. Everett
Radiation Specialist

cc: Ed Greenman
Reactor Inspector, BWRs
Facility Operations Branch

B/146