

UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE OF REGULATORY OPERATIONS
REGION I
970 BROAD STREET
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY 07102

March 14, 1973

Note to File

OYSTER CREEK STACK RELEASES AND MCDERMOTT'S TELECON TO
PRESSURE LICENSEE FOR BASIS TO CONTINUE POWER LEVEL WITH
THE CURRENT RELEASE RATES

I telephoned Kirkpatrick to provide information on March 6, 1973. I stated that OC stack releases had peaked on 3/2/73 at 137,000 uCi/sec* following an adjustment of control rods for flux shaping purposes and on 3/5/73 the stack release had decreased to 135,000 uCi/sec (approximately 50% of the Technical Specification limit).

Approximately one hour later, Bob McDermott, with Kirkpatrick on the telephone, called and asked what was the bases for OC continuing to operate at such high stack releases relative to meeting "as low as practicable" releases.

I discussed the subject with F. Cantrell and B. Carlson and called McDermott back regarding additional information from Cantrell. McDermott pressured hard to get the licensee to provide a specific basis for continuing operation at the high stack release rates and stated that DL would be upset if OC was operating at as much as 20% of limits. He stated DL would be satisfied if OC was at 10% of limits. He further stated that other power plants were reducing power to control stack releases in order to achieve as low as practicable releases.

*Technical Specification limit calculates to be approximately 262,500 uCi/sec ($E = .8$).

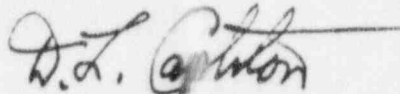
3/29/73

McDermott was questioned regarding specific written guidance (criteria) from Headquarters regarding this matter. There was none.

Based on McDermott's hard position in this matter and subsequent discussions with Bob Carlson, I placed a call to Keppler for the purpose of further discussing the ramifications of the request. Keppler's secretary stated that he was in a meeting, and a request was left for him to call me. (Keppler never called me back as of 4:40 pm). Based upon the circumstances, I directed Floyd Cantrell to call McCluskey, OC Plant Superintendent, to obtain information regarding McDermott's request. Following the information conveyed by McCluskey in a return call to Cantrell, I telephoned Don Ross, Manager of Generating Stations, and discussed the matter of "as low as practicable" releases. This discussion was congenial and candid regarding the "as low as practicable releases."

Ross stated that he would call me back this week regarding his progress in pursuit of the matters discussed.

J. P. O'Reilly was informed of these developments.



D. L. Capiton
Senior Reactor Inspector
Facility Operations Branch

cc: J. P. O'Reilly
R. T. Carlson
F. S. Cantrell