Docket No. 50-219

Honorable Clifford P. Case United States Senate

Dear Senator Case:

This is in response to your note of April 9, 1973, transmitting a letter written to you on March 1, 1973, by Mr. Ed Allgood, of Deptford, New Jersey, with regard to thermal discharges from the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station and the effect on fish in the Creek. The United States Atomic Energy Commission (the staff) is making an evaluation of this impact in our detailed Environmental Statement for the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station.

Jersey Central Power and Light Company has contracted the National Marine Fisheries Service, Atlantic Estuarine Fisheries Center, Beaufort, North Carolina, to provide information with regard to distribution, abundance, and movements of young menhaden in mid-Atlantic estuaries in order to provide the bases necessary for appropriate corrective actions.

Further, members of the staff have been studying the problem of winter fish kills and it is anticipated that the environmental technical specifications, which are part of the operating license of the Oyster Creek Station and are limits under which it will be required to operate, will identify actions to be taken by the licensee to alleviate or minimize this problem.

The Environmental Statement is being prepared in accordance with the Commission's regulations, 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix D, implementing the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as part of the staff's evaluation of the application of Jersey Central Power and Light Company for a full term operating license for the

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9604160295 960213 PDR FOIA DEKOK95-258 PDR Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station. In our evaluation, a cost-benefit analysis and balance will be done with regard to alternative cooling methods and will include consideration of cooling towers. The Draft Environmental Statement containing the above information is presently scheduled for issuance in June 1973, and we will send a copy to Mr. Allgood as soon as it is available.

If there are further questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Hoper S. Boyd \_\_\_

Assistant A. Giambusso, Deputy Director for Reactor Projects Directorate of Licensing

Enclosure: Ltr dtd 3/1/73, to Hon. Clifford P. Case

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