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Region I, Division of Compliance

JERSEY CENTRAL POWER & LIGHT COMPANY
CO REPORT NO. 219/70-7

I reviewed the rod surveillance testing and the results indicate that the rod performance has been satisfactory since the April-May, 1970 rod work outage. The ~~loss~~ exception to this is that the totalized stall flow readings have increased from 167 to 218 gallons per minute during the inspection period which could possibly indicate a degradation of the seals. I will continue to review this area closely until the totalized stall flows stabilize.

I consider that there are generic considerations for the design change made by Jersey Central in the initiating logic circuitry for the isolation condenser. JC has stated that the cause for the loss of function ^{which} was identified by the closure of the excess flow check valve, was a design error. I would recommend that Compliance pursue this issue with other BWR's.

The method of discharge load testing of the 125 volt station batteries is considered unsatisfactory. My review underscored two areas of concern. One is that the Technical Specifications lack acceptance criteria for many of the surveillance tests. The second is that the discharge load tests are conducted following the 24-hour equalizing charge on the batteries. This latter condition is not isolated to the Oyster Creek facility but has also been found at other reactors I have inspected such as Cinna, NBS, Saxton, and Indian Point 1. As it is my understanding that the batteries are sized, i.e., the ampere hour ^{capacity} reading, to provide emergency power for a safe and orderly shutdown and to maintain the reactor in a shutdown condition for a specified length of time, the measured ampere hour capacity should be measured in the "as found" condition rather than following an equalizing charge which would result in a substantially higher measured ampere hour capacity. I would recommend that both of these issues be forwarded to DRL for their consideration.

The numbers of items of noncompliance identified in my review of a small section of the surveillance testing program at Oyster Creek, has indicated that a thorough inspection of the surveillance testing program is in order. In that regard, I intend to pursue this area, in some depth, during the next routine inspection. If my review during this inspection is representative of the total surveillance testing program, I would recommend that we pursue this issue with higher management at that time.

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