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631 Park Avenue King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

D. L. Caphton Senior Reactor Inspector Reactor Operations Branch Directorate of Regulatory Operations DRO:I

OYSTER CREEK (DN 50-219) PROCEDURE REVIEW AND IMPLEMENTATION

During a recent inspection (50-219/74-02) I reviewed PORC and Station Superintendent responsibilities concerning plant operating and radiation control procedures.

The Oyster Creek Technical Specifications, Sections 6.2 D&E provide sufficient latitude to permit the Superintendent to approve all procedures and implement same without benefit of prior PORC review. It should be noted that in practice the Station Superintendent does not implement procedures without PORC review.

It is recommended that Technical Specifications be changed to require a PORC review of procedures.

Edward G. Greenman Reactor Inspector

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UNITED STATES ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548

January 30, 1974

Docket No. 50-219

Jersey Central Power & Light Company ATTN: Mr. R. H. Sims, Vice President Madison Avenue at Punch Bowl Road Morristown, New Jersey 07960

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Gentlemen:

Your letter dated October 8, 1973, in response to our letter dated January 22, 1973, regarding drywell vacuum breakers, advised that additional information, including an assembly drawing (proprietary) would be submitted. You stated that by November 15, 1973, you would provide the status of your response to our request. We have not received the required additional information nor have we received the status of your response.

During our review of other boiling water type nuclear plants, e.g. Quad-Cities, Monticello, etc., the need to maintain the vacuum breakers in a normally closed condition became apparent. This need resulted in additional requirements listed below:

- An alarm system is to be installed to meet single failure criteria to alert the operator in the control room if a suppression chamber to drywell vacuum breaker is open more than a specified allowable limit.
- (2) Limiting Conditions for Operation and Surveillance Requirement technical specifications will be revised for the suppression chamber to drywell and the reactor building to suppression chamber vacuum breaker systems.

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The above requirements shall be met prior to termination of your next refueling outage. Until these requirements are met, the following surveillance shall be performed and limitations imposed effective the date of this letter:

- A. Reactor Building to Suppression Chamber Vacuum Breakers
 - 1. Once a month each air-operated and self-actuated vacuum breaker shall be exercised to determine its operability.
 - 2. During every refueling outage the air-operated and self-actuated vacuum breaker shall be inspected and tested to verify that the disk opens when subjected to the equivalent of not more than 0.5 psi differential pressure exerted on the face of the disk.
 - 3. Reactor operation may continue for 30 days if one vacuum breaker becomes inoperable.
 - 4. Reactor shutdown shall be initiated immediately and the reactor shall be in a cold shutdown condition within 24 hours if one or more vacuum breakers in both pipes from the reactor building are inoperable.
- B. Suppression Chamber to Drywell Vacuum Breakers
 - 1. Once a week and immediately following a transient that adds energy to the suppression chamber, each vacuum breaker shall be tested for operability. The disk, after being fully opened, shall be allowed to close without assistance.
 - 2. Once every refueling outage, a differential pressure decay rate test shall be performed to verify that bypass area between the drywell and suppression chamber does not exceed the equivalent of a one-inch orifice. The differential pressure at the start of the test shall not be less than 1.0 ps1.
 - 3. During every refueling outage each vacuum breaker shall be tested to verify that the disk opens when subjected to the equivalent of not more than 0.5 psi differential pressure exerted on the face of the disk. A minimum of three vacuum breakers shall be inspected each refueling outage. If the inspection identifies a deficiency, all vacuum breakers shall be inspected and the noted deficiencies corrected.

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- 4. If a vacuum breaker is determined to be inoperable, it shall be locked closed.
- 5. Reactor operation may continue provided that not more than 25% of the vacuum breakers are inoperable.

If you expect to experience difficulty in providing the necessary changes to the vacuum breaker systems and the technical specifications by the end of the forthcoming refueling outage, please advise us of the reasons for the difficulty. It is expected that reactor startup following refueling will not proceed if appropriate changes and tests have not been completed.

Submit within 30 days of the date of this letter one original and thirty-nine copies of the required additional information for our review of the vacuum breaker systems.

Sincerely,

W.hell-216/01

Donald J Skovholt Assistant Director for Operating Reactors Directorate of Licensing

cc: See next page

Jersey Central Power & Light

January 30, 1974

cc: GPU Service Corporation ATTN: Mr. Thomas M. Crimmins Safety & Licensing Manager 260 Cherry Hill Road Parsippany, New Jersey 07054

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