

MAY 13 1975

Memo to File *JLC*

Thru: D. L. Caphton, Senior Reactor Inspector  
IE:1, Reactor Operations Branch

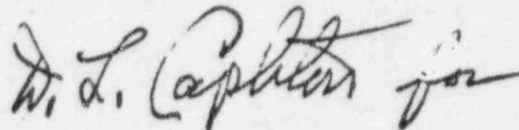
OYSTER CREEK SHUTDOWN MARGIN TESTING FOLLOWING REFUELING

I called Walt Paulson, the Oyster Creek RL Project Manager, on Tuesday, April 13, 1975 as a followup to conversations with OIE:HQ (Dreher) and RL on May 9, and with respect to RL issuance of a memorandum concerning the conduct of Shutdown Margin Testing. Walt informed me that he would prepare the referenced memorandum and forward it to OIE:HQ. Walt read his proposed memorandum and we discussed the content. I recontacted Paulson at 4:15 p.m. and he stated that his management had concurred in the memorandum and that it would be forwarded to OIE:HQ this date.

OIE:HQ had been apprised of the Oyster Creek status and the contents of the RL Memorandum to File were related to Mr. Caphton and myself via conference call with Dreher. The memo indicated that OELD does not consider Rod Shutdown Margin Tests to be restricted by the order of December 27, 1974 and that ECCS is not applicable to these tests conducted at effectively zero power. OELD concludes that the December 27, 1974 order would not prohibit such tests in this case. The memo further stated that no other Technical Specification limit is effected by such tests and they can be conducted safely under the present license. HQ was informed that we planned to contact the licensee in this regard, and that contingent upon a satisfactory telephone review of GORB and PORC minutes to assure safety aspects of the Cycle Five Core had been included and a review of the Shutdown Margin Test procedure, that we no longer considered this test to be an issue. The licensee was also to be informed that other testing and operation was not permitted without specific RL authorization.

I called the site (J. T. Carroll, Station Superintendent) on May 13, 1975 and discussed the above. Additional topics discussed included plant status, the Vermont Yankee Criticality Bulletin and Local Criticality. Carroll informed me that the Hydro-Test is now scheduled for May 14 and that Containment Spray Heat Exchanger repairs

are complete. The licensee continues to project startup for May 19, 1975. Carroll stated that he would recontact me with respect to GORB and PORC reviews and the Shutdown Margin Test on May 14. The conversation was cordial, and in view of schedule slippage, I am of the view that there is no immediacy regarding Shutdown Margin Testing.



Edward G. Greenman  
Reactor Inspector

cc: J. P. O'Reilly ✓  
E. J. Brunner ✓  
D. L. Caphton