

FEB 21 1975

D. L. Caphton, Senior Reactor Inspection, IE:I Reactor Operations Branch

OYSTER CREEK

(DN 50-219)

IE INSPECTION NO. 50-219/75-05

Results of this special inspection indicated the following:

1. Fish mortalities were significantly less than those observed in January 1974. I do not expect any great visual signs of a kill from putrefaction as canal water heats up following startup.
2. Consequences may have been mitigated by extremely strong winds which mixed ocean water to raise bay temperatures to approximately 45°F. If fish were able to escape at shutdown to bay environs, they probably survived. No action taken by the licensee mitigated any potential consequences. Canal water rapidly reached 34°-36°F. Additionally, IE:I action during the November 12-14 shutdown in recommending reductions in effluent temperature as an inducement for the menhaden to leave could have had some small bearing on the outcome.
3. The cause of the loss of feedwater pumps had not been determined. This matter will be pursued during a subsequent inspection.
4. There was no press interest during the interval I was on site.

As you are aware, fish kills at Oyster Creek are predictable, and will continue to occur on winter shutdowns, until alternate cooling methods are employed. The FES does not consider such kills to represent a significant environmental impact on the overall fishery. My own views are already well documented, and need not be belabored further.



E. G. Greenman  
Reactor Inspector

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