

October 22, 1984

Docket No. 50-334

DISTRIBUTION

Mr. J. J. Carey, Vice President  
Nuclear Division  
Duquesne Light Company  
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Dear Mr. Carey:

SUBJECT: SURVEY QUESTIONS ON NUCLEAR POWER PLANT BIOFOULING

Several incidents have occurred in the past in which fouling of safety systems have occurred because of infestation by Asiatic clams and blue mussels by way of the cooling water system for these safety systems. IE Bulletin 81-03 (April 10, 1981) was forwarded to holders of both operating licenses and construction permits, requesting that the holders determine whether clams or mussels were present in the vicinity of the nuclear power station and that they describe the actions being taken to prevent and to correct fouling by clams or mussels.

Results of the IE Bulletin are documented in NUREG/CR-3054, "Closeout of Bulletin 81-03: Flow Blockage of Cooling Water to Safety System Components by Corbicula sp. (Asiatic Clam) and Mytilus sp. (Mussel)."

As a result of the incidents cited above, the staff established Generic Issue 51, "Proposed Requirements for Improving the Reliability of Open Cycle Service Water System" to address means for detecting the presence of fouling agents and controlling these agents so that no serious failure would result from any infestations. As part of this effort, a survey of selected plants is being done to determine whether licensees of plants with high biofouling potential are aware of the risks of biofouling and whether these licensees have implemented effective surveillance and/or control strategies designed to prevent biofouling so as to minimize the risk of plant damage while GI-51 is being completed. Two survey questions are enclosed. Please respond within 90 days of receipt of this letter. Other than responding to these questions, no additional action is required on your part.

Please feel free to contact your project manager, Mr. Peter Tam, if you have any questions.

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Mr. J. J. Carey

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The reporting and/or recordkeeping requirements of this letter affect fewer than ten respondents; therefore, OMB clearance is not required Under P.L. 96-511.

/s./SAVarga

Steven A. Varga, Chief  
Operating Reactors Branch #1  
Division of Licensing

Enclosure:  
As stated

cc w/enclosure:  
See next page

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