

Oyster Creek Nuclear Watch
P.O. Box 243
Island Heights, NJ 08732

May 11, 1996

Hon. Shirley Jackson, Chairman
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Dr. Jackson,

I am writing on behalf of Oyster Creek Nuclear Watch to respectfully request that your office investigate and correct a highly inaccurate public statement recently printed and widely circulated by GPU Nuclear regarding the current license amendment application for the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station.

In the enclosed April 1996 "Neighborhood Update", which is circulated to many thousands of households in Ocean County, New Jersey, GPU Nuclear makes the following statement on page one in their lead story:

"Both GPU Nuclear and the NRC agree that this [license amendment request] is not a safety issue, but a procedural one."

That the above statement is untrue is clearly demonstrated by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission Bulletin of April 11, 1996 which states:

"The NRC staff audited both the initial and updated 10 CFR 50.59 evaluations performed by the licensee [GPU Nuclear] and determined that the proposed cask movement activities represent an unreviewed safety question that should be submitted to the NRC for review and approval pursuant to the requirements of 10 CFR 50.59 and 50.90."

"Accordingly, as defined in 10 CFR 50.59(c), if an activity is found to involve an unreviewed safety question, an application for a license amendment must be filed with the Commission pursuant to 10 CFR 50.90."

As I know you are aware, the necessity for GPU Nuclear's license amendment request is created by GPU Nuclear's desire to leave the nuclear reactor running while they lift an unprecedentedly heavy (100 ton) load over the reactor's containment structure (the torus) and over the used fuel pool for the purpose of transferring used nuclear fuel from wet to dry storage.

This is a safety issue par excellence, and the public deserves to be told the truth, not the opposite.

We therefore respectfully request that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission require a new mailing by GPU Nuclear specifically dedicated to correcting the misinformation disseminated in the April 1996 "Neighborhood Update".

We also respectfully request that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission take any disciplinary actions that may be appropriate in this matter.

Sincerely,

William deCamp, Jr.

William deCamp, Jr., Trustee
Oyster Creek Nuclear Watch

201-376-6639

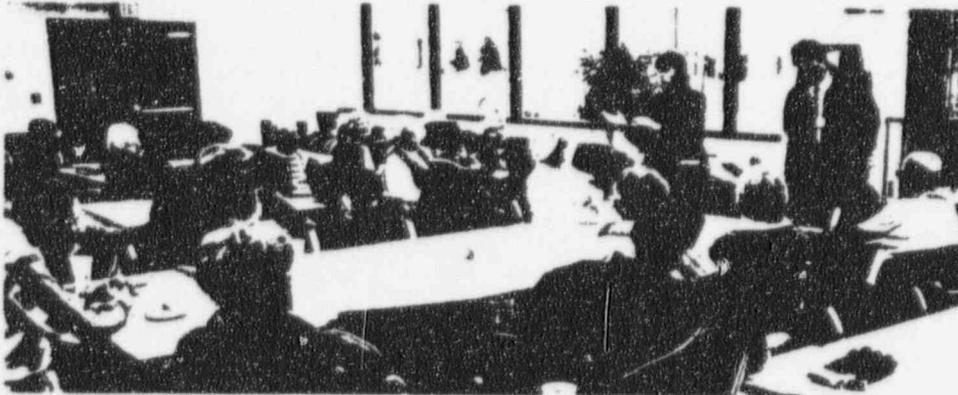
cc: Hon. Frank Pallone



NEIGHBORHOOD UPDATE

Volume 10, Number 2 • April, 1996 • GPU Nuclear Corporation

License Amendment Request Delays Interim Spent Fuel Project



GPU Nuclear Corporation's plan to move some of Oyster Creek's spent fuel into an interim dry storage facility at the plant site has been delayed.

The delay is the result of a request by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for GPU Nuclear Corp. to amend its operating license in order to transfer spent fuel from the plant's spent fuel pool to the storage facility while the plant is operating.

Oyster Creek's spent fuel is currently stored in a specially designed pool inside the reactor building, but space for the fuel will be depleted this year.

GPU Nuclear had been working with the NRC to move the fuel under the plant's existing operating license, however, the NRC recently requested that the license be amended in order to move fuel while the plant is operating.

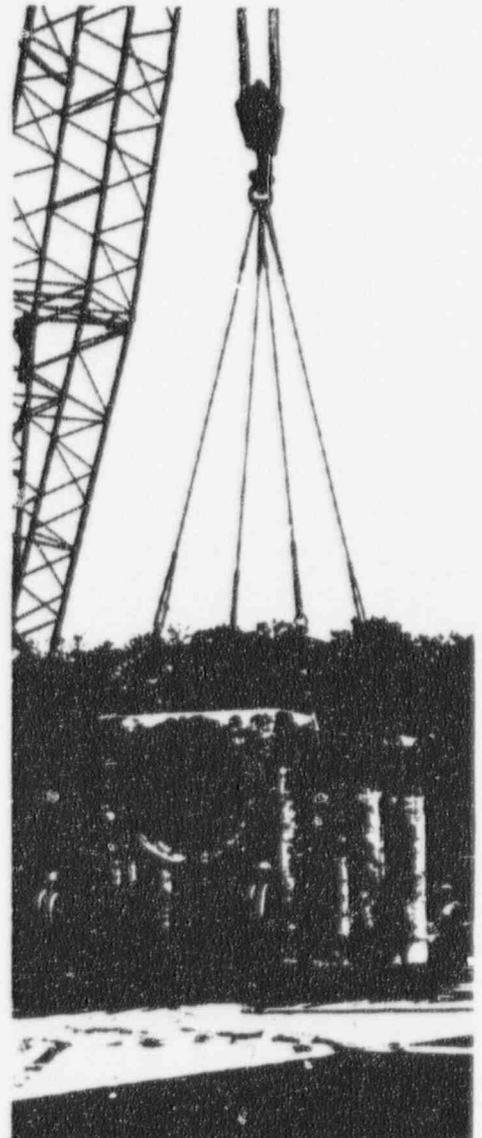
Public tours of Oyster Creek's interim spent fuel storage facility were held in March. Here, Marianne King, Public Affairs Manager, GPU Nuclear Corp., Oyster Creek, and Jim Lowney, Senior Public Affairs Rep., GPU Nuclear Corp., Oyster Creek, answer questions posed by members of the public who toured the facility.

Both GPU Nuclear and the NRC agree this is not a safety issue, but a procedural one.

It will take about a month to prepare the amendment documentation for submission to the NRC, according to Joe Andrescavage, Interim Spent Fuel Storage Installation Site Manager for Oyster Creek. After the request is submitted, the NRC is expected to take about a month to review it, after which the license amendment documentation will be made available for public review and comment.

If the license amendment is approved, he said, the spent fuel may be moved sometime around the next refueling and maintenance outage, scheduled to begin in September.

The 10 concrete, steel-reinforced vaults that will safely store some of the plant's oldest spent fuel arrived on site in late January.



Workers place one of 10 vaults onto the concrete mat at Oyster Creek's interim spent fuel storage area.

The interim facility is needed at Oyster Creek to store some of the plant's used nuclear fuel until the federal government establishes a central repository for the nation's spent fuel.

Acting Bug Contagious in Skleros Household

or seven-year-old Christina Lynn Skleros, one of the best parts about performing in the Broadway play "Annie" was knowing that when she came home from the four-month national tour she would get the pet parakeet she had always wanted.

To her proud parents, Mary Beth and Tom Skleros, a Radiological Controls Technician at Oyster Creek, the best thing is knowing that long after the road trip ends, Christina will have experience and memories to cherish for the rest of her life.

"She walks out on stage and doesn't bat an eye," Skleros, a Barnegat resident, said. "To her, performing is second nature, but to Mary Beth and I, we're thrilled."

The acting bug must be contagious in the Skleros household. Even Christina's five-year-old brother, Tommy John, has begun taking on small acting and singing parts.

"The way I see it, if they never do anything like this again, they can always tell stories to their grandchildren about these experiences," Skleros said. "And that is what makes it all worthwhile."

Christina recently completed a four-month "Annie" tour that took her to 40 cities in 18 states and Canada. It was her

first role in a national production. Christina played the role of July, a tough 13-year-old orphan.

What is it like for a seven-year-old to audition and get a part in a national production? Christina takes it in stride.

"I wasn't really nervous, because I've been in 'Annie' before (in other local productions)," Christina said of the audition. "I sang my lungs out and I knew they were saying in their minds that I got the part."

But when she learned she got the role, she was thrilled.

"I was jumping around. I wanted to call everybody and tell them," she said.

Coincidentally, that same day, Tommy John received some good news as well. "The day Christina got the call saying she got in 'Annie,' we got a call saying Tommy John had to be in New York at 6 p.m. It turned out he had an interview with Woody Allen, himself," Skleros explained.

After meeting with Allen, it seemed that Tommy John's persona was just right for a small singing part in Allen's upcoming movie, slated for release this fall. Allen wanted Tommy John for the small role because he is just a regular boy, not a flashy, polished performer. In this scene, Tommy John gets to work with Drew

Barrymore, Alan Alda and Goldie Hawn were also on the set.

Like his sister, Tommy John was a natural. In fact, he gave Allen some advice. Just before filming the scene, Allen explained to the young actor what he should be doing on camera, but it did not sit right with Tommy John.

"I told him I don't think that's such a good idea, Mister Woody," Tommy John explained. Word is, Allen took the young actor's directing tips to heart.

Tommy John can also be seen in a commercial for the Lifetime Channel.

Managing the careers of their two children makes for an active schedule. But Tom and Mary Beth also manage the acting careers of 11 other children, some of whom are part of the Barnegat Bay Breeze Singers, a local children's singing group directed by the two.

"It shows the kids that all the hard work you put in can come back to you," Skleros said.

Both children have been performing locally and regionally for quite some time, Skleros said. Christina, he said, has sung and danced in more than 100 performances around the area. The locations have ranged from senior citizen groups, nursing homes, local cable television, Great Adventure and various performances in Atlantic City.

Christina studies voice with Sal Dupree, of the famous 1960s singing group, the Duprees, of Barnegat Township and Linwood; violin with Dolores Dillon of Stafford Township; piano with Mary Biddle of Stafford Township; tap, jazz and ballet at Dance Productions of Barnegat Township; and music theory with Faith Kline of Toms River.

Both children perform locally with the Our Gang Players and the Barnegat Bay Breeze Singers.

"The one thing about Christina, unlike other seven-year-olds, she's an avid listener of opera and classical piano. She studies violin and piano and is a violinist with the Garden State Philharmonic Prep Orchestra in Toms River," Skleros said.



Tom Skleros, Oyster Creek Radiological Controls Technician, with his children, Tommy John and Christina.

