

MAY 09 1988

Docket No. 50-219

GPU Nuclear Corporation  
ATTN: Mr. P. R. Clark  
President  
1 Upper Pond Road  
Parsippany, New Jersey 07054

Gentlemen:

Subject: Systematic Assessment of Licensee Performance (SALP) Report No.  
50-219/86-99

This letter transmits our final SALP Report for the Oyster Creek facility. Overall, we believe the facility is being operated in a safe manner. Your site and corporate management continue to display a strong commitment to nuclear safety and we acknowledge the changes you have made to improve overall management effectiveness at the site. We find, however, the performance at Oyster Creek has been inconsistent and the level of effectiveness, particularly in Plant Operations and Engineering Support, has declined.

Thank you for your letter dated April 4, 1988 wherein you presented, as a follow-up to our March 3, 1988 meeting, a detailed response to the Oyster Creek SALP for the period October 16, 1986 through September 30, 1987 and of some your actions subsequent to the end of the SALP period. We appreciate the efforts you are making to address our concerns and will monitor the implementation of your initiatives. The amended SALP Report (Enclosure 1), our earlier transmittal letter (Enclosure 2), SALP meeting attendees (Enclosure 3), and your response (Enclosure 4) are enclosed and will be placed in the Public Document Room.

We acknowledge the initiatives to improve your performance in the Plant Operations and Engineering Support areas and will monitor your progress in these areas. In addition, we look forward to discussing the results of the Engineering Support self-assessment in the near future.

Attachment II of your letter addresses concerns regarding the Emergency Preparedness and Surveillance/Inservice Testing sections. Regarding your comments in the Emergency Preparedness area, we have amended Page 27 to reflect the declaration of a general emergency, but still maintain that this declaration and the associated protective action recommendation could have been more timely. We agree that the Emergency Support Director (ESD) should declare the general emergency based on realistic simulated readings and not just "declare the inevitable" because it was an annual exercise; but, based on the inspector's review of the exercise, there were indications available to the ESD to make a more timely declaration.

For the Surveillance/Inservice Testing section, we acknowledge the additional surveillance testing that was conducted, but your approach to root cause determination needs to be modified to better analyze as-found equipment configurations to allow proper determination of the cause. We have amended Page 24 to reflect the additional surveillance testing conducted.

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Your response was thoroughly reviewed and it was concluded that there were not sufficient bases provided to warrant any changes in the rating of these sections.

In summary, we felt the report, our meeting, and your response letter resulted in a constructive assessment of the performance at Oyster Creek and provided a thorough understanding of extensive corrective actions and improvements undertaken since September 30, 1987.

Your cooperation is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

WILLIAM T. RUSSELL

William T. Russell

Regional Administrator

Enclosures:

1. Systematic Assessment of Licensee Performance Amended (SALP) Report No. 50-219/86-99
2. NRC Region I Letter, W. T. Russell to P. B. Fiedler dated February 12, 1988
3. March 3, 1988 SALP Management Meeting Attendees
4. GPU Letter from P. R. Clark dated April 4, 1988
5. SALP Board Report Errata Sheets

cc w/encls:

P. Fiedler, Vice President and Director  
M. Laggart, BWR Licensing Manager  
Licensing Manager, Oyster Creek  
Chairman Zech  
Commissioner Roberts  
Commissioner Bernthal  
Commissioner Carr  
Commissioner Rogers  
K. Abraham, PAO, RI (11 copies)  
Public Document Room (PDR)  
Local Public Document Room (LPDR)  
Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)  
NRC Resident Inspector  
State of New Jersey

MAY 09 1988

bcc w/encl:  
 Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)  
 Management Assistant, DRMA (w/o encl)  
 J. Taylor, DEDRO  
 W. Russell, RI  
 F. Congel, DRSS  
 W. Johnston, DRS  
 R. Brady, RI  
 J. Lieberman, OE  
 W. Oliverira, DRS  
 D. Holody, ES  
 SALP Management Meeting Attendees  
 Section Chief, DRP  
 Robert J. Bores, DRSS

RI:DRP *W*  
 Cowgill/meo  
 4/15/88

RI:DRP  
*JRB*  
 Bettenhausen  
*5/5/88*

RI:DRP  
*[Signature]*  
 5/5/88

RI:RA  
*[Signature]*  
 Russell  
 5/6/88

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