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Writer's Direct Dial Number.
September 14, 1988

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Station P1-137
Washington, DC 20575

Dear Sir:

Subject: Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station
Docket No. 50-219
NRC Bulletin No. 88-07 "Power Oscillations in Boiling Water
Reactors (BWRs)"

General Public Utilities Nuclear, (GPUN) has briefed licensed reactor operators and Shift Technical Advisors (STAs), assigned to shift duties, regarding the March 9, 1988 LaSalle Unit 2 event described in the subject bulletin. This was accomplished within 15 days of the receipt of the bulletin as required.

Subsequently, GPUN conducted a review of this event as it pertains to the Oyster Creek design. This review included an engineering evaluation of reactor stability, a review of the capabilities of the installed nuclear instrumentation to detect power oscillations which included a specific test, a review of the operator training program, and a review of operating procedures. As a result of these reviews, it has been concluded that although the Oyster Creek design is less susceptible to power oscillations due to lower power density, oscillations can occur during operation at high power and low flow conditions. Furthermore, it was found that if power oscillations similar to those at LaSalle Unit 2 were to occur at Oyster Creek, the oscillations would be terminated by scram at a lower power level.

Information relative to the LaSalle events has been included in the applicable training program files (both operator and STA) which are consulted prior to presentation of the training program module. Permanent inclusion of this information into the course outline will be accomplished within the established schedule for revision of the training program module. Additionally, plant simulator training includes operator response to power oscillations.

A review of operating procedures was conducted. These procedures had addressed most aspects of reactor stability and operator response to events and conditions which could result in power oscillations. However, as a result of the engineering evaluation, it was concluded that these procedures can be improved and revisions are currently in the preparation and review process. Following revision of the procedures, they will be included in the operator and STA training program.

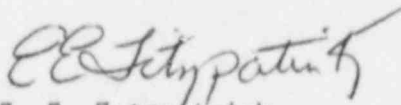
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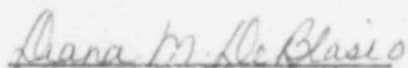
In summary, all licensed reactor operators and STAs have been formally briefed on the events which occurred at LaSalle Unit 2 by the Oyster Creek Training Department. Information relative to this event and its applicability to the Oyster Creek design has been included in training presentations. Current operating procedures address reactor stability concerns and operator actions to mitigate initiating conditions for power oscillation problems. Improvements in these procedures are being implemented and are expected to be completed by December 15, 1988. This will complete GPUN's response to NRC Bulletin 88-07.

Very truly yours,



E. E. Fitzpatrick
Vice President and Director
Oyster Creek

Sworn to and Subscribed
before me this *14th* day
of *September* 1988.


A Notary Public of NJ
Exp 6/5/91

EEF/GB/snz
0545A

cc: Mr. William T. Russell, Administrator
Region I
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Mr. Alexander W. Dromerick, Project Manager
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NRC Resident Inspector
Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station
Forked River, NJ 08731