



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

REGION I  
2100 RENAISSANCE BLVD., SUITE 100  
KING OF PRUSSIA, PA 19406-2713

March 4, 2015

Mr. Bryan Hanson  
Senior Vice President, Exelon Generation  
President and Chief Nuclear Officer, Exelon Nuclear  
4300 Winfield Road  
Warrenville, IL 60555

**SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR OYSTER CREEK NUCLEAR  
GENERATING STATION (REPORT 05000219/2014001)**

Dear Mr. Hanson:

On February 9, 2015, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed its end-of-cycle performance review of Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station (Oyster Creek). The NRC reviewed the most recent quarterly performance indicators in addition to inspection results and enforcement actions from January 1, 2014, through December 31, 2014. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of Oyster Creek, and its plans for future inspections at your facility.

On December 31, 2014, performance at Oyster Creek was within the Regulatory Response Column of the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process Action Matrix due to the "Unplanned Scrams per 7000 Critical Hours" performance indicator, which crossed the green-to-white threshold in the third quarter of 2014. However, on January 20, 2015, the NRC issued inspection report 05000219/2014010 (ADAMS Accession Number ML15020A632), which documented the results of the associated supplemental inspection, conducted in accordance with Inspection Procedure 95001, "Supplemental Inspection for One or Two White Inputs in a Strategic Performance Area." This inspection report noted that your staff's evaluation appropriately identified the primary root and contributing causes for each of the reactor scrams that contributed to the White performance indicator. As such, the inspectors determined that the supplemental inspection objectives were met with no significant weaknesses.

Because the "Unplanned Scrams per 7000 Critical Hours" performance indicator returned from the white to the green performance band in the fourth quarter of 2014, and the associated supplemental inspection was completed satisfactorily, as noted above, Oyster Creek has transitioned from the Regulatory Response Column to the Licensee Response Column of the Reactor Oversight Process Action Matrix as of the date of this letter. Therefore, the NRC plans to conduct baseline inspection activities at your facility.

Although Oyster Creek has transitioned to the Licensee Response Column as of the date of this letter, the NRC has not yet finalized the significance of two apparent violations. These two apparent violations are:

- a preliminary white finding, "Failure to Review Maintenance Process Results in Inoperable Emergency Diesel Generator," as documented in NRC inspection report 05000219/2014005 (ADAMS Accession Number ML15042A072); and,
- a preliminary yellow finding/old design issue, "Inadequate Application of Materials, Parts, Equipment, and Processes Associated with Electromatic Relief Valves," as documented in NRC inspection report 05000219/2014009 (ADAMS Accession Number ML15042A231).

The final safety significance determination of these apparent violations may affect the NRC's assessment of plant performance and the enclosed inspection plan. If the preliminary yellow finding is finalized as an old design issue, it will not aggregate in the Action Matrix with other performance indicators and inspection findings per Inspection Manual Chapter 0305, "Operating Reactor Assessment Program." Any changes to the plant assessment or inspection plan will be communicated via separate correspondence.

The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through June 30, 2016. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. In addition to baseline inspections, the NRC will perform Inspection Procedure 60855.1, "Operation of an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation at Operating Plants." The inspections listed during the last nine months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the mid-cycle performance review. The NRC provides the inspection plan to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues. The NRC will contact you as soon as possible to discuss changes to the inspection plan should circumstances warrant any changes. This inspection plan does not include security-related inspections, which will be sent via separate, non-publicly available correspondence.

Additionally, an NRC audit of licensee efforts towards compliance with Order EA-12-049, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Requirements for Mitigation Strategies for Beyond-Design-Basis External Events," and Order EA-12-051, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Reliable Spent Fuel Pool Instrumentation," is ongoing for various sites. The audit includes an onsite visit for the NRC staff to evaluate mitigating strategies as described in the licensee submittals, and to receive and review information relative to associated open items. This onsite audit will occur prior to the first unit at the site achieving compliance with the Orders and the audit will aid NRC staff in developing a final Safety Evaluation for the site. The NRC will contact you once the audit date for your site has been determined. A site-specific audit plan for the visit will be provided in advance to allow sufficient time for preparations.

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, Part 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of the NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

B. Hanson

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Please contact Silas Kennedy at (610) 337-5046 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Ho K. Nieh  
Director  
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos. 50-219  
License Nos. DPR-16

Enclosure: Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station Inspection/Activity Plan

cc w/encl: Distribution via ListServ

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|--|--------------|---|------------|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SUNSI Review |              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Sensitive<br><input type="checkbox"/> Sensitive |            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Publicly Available<br><input type="checkbox"/> Non-Publicly Available |  |
| OFFICE   | RI/DRP       | RI/DRP  | RI/DRP     |   |  |
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| DATE   | 02/18 /15    | 02/ 18 /15  | 02/25 /15  |   |  |

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**Oyster Creek**  
**Inspection / Activity Plan**  
**01/01/2015 - 06/30/2016**

| Unit Number | Planned Dates |            | Inspection Activity                                 | Title   | No. of Staff on Site |
|-------------|---------------|------------|---|---|----------------------|
|             | Start         | End        |   |   |                      |
|             |               |            | <b>71124 - HP INSPECTION 71124.01 AND .02</b>       |   | <b>1</b>             |
| 1           | 01/26/2015    | 01/30/2015 | IP 71124.01   | Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls  |                      |
| 1           | 01/26/2015    | 01/30/2015 | IP 71124.02   | Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls  |                      |
|             |               |            | <b>7111107T - TRIENNIAL HEAT SINK</b>               |   | <b>1</b>             |
| 1           | 03/09/2015    | 03/13/2015 | IP 7111107T   | Heat Sink Performance   |                      |
|             |               |            | <b>MODS - PERMANENT PLANT MODIFICATIONS</b>         |   | <b>3</b>             |
| 1           | 04/06/2015    | 04/10/2015 | IP 7111117T   | Evaluations of Changes, Tests, and Experiments and Permanent Plant Modifications                  |                      |
| 1           | 04/20/2015    | 04/24/2015 | IP 7111117T   | Evaluations of Changes, Tests, and Experiments and Permanent Plant Modifications                  |                      |
|             |               |            | <b>71124 - RADIOACTIVE EFFLUENT CONTROL RETS</b>    |   | <b>1</b>             |
| 1           | 06/01/2015    | 06/05/2015 | IP 71124.05   | Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation  |                      |
| 1           | 06/01/2015    | 06/05/2015 | IP 71124.06   | Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment   |                      |
|             |               |            | <b>7111111B - REQUAL INSP W/ P/F RESULTS</b>        |   | <b>2</b>             |
| 1           | 06/08/2015    | 06/12/2015 | IP 7111111B   | Licensed Operator Requalification Program   |                      |
|             |               |            | <b>71124 - REMP</b>                                 |   | <b>1</b>             |
| 1           | 08/03/2015    | 08/06/2015 | IP 71124.07   | Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program   |                      |
|             |               |            | <b>EXM2/1 - OYSTER CREEK INITIAL EXAMINATION</b>    |   | <b>4</b>             |
| 1           | 01/04/2016    | 01/08/2016 | U01929  | FY16-OC INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSING EXAM   |                      |
| 1           | 02/01/2016    | 02/12/2016 | U01929  | FY16-OC INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSING EXAM   |                      |
|             |               |            | <b>EP - EP EXERCISE</b>                             |   | <b>5</b>             |
| 1           | 09/28/2015    | 10/02/2015 | IP 7111407  | Exercise Evaluation - Hostile Action (HA) Event   |                      |
| 1           | 09/28/2015    | 10/02/2015 | IP 7111408  | Exercise Evaluation – Scenario Review   |                      |
|             |               |            | <b>71151 - RP CHEM PI VERIFY AND HP INSPECTIONS</b> |   | <b>1</b>             |
| 1           | 11/02/2015    | 11/05/2015 | IP 71124.01   | Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls  |                      |
| 1           | 11/02/2015    | 11/05/2015 | IP 71124.02   | Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls  |                      |
| 1           | 11/02/2015    | 11/05/2015 | IP 71124.03   | In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation  |                      |
| 1           | 11/02/2015    | 11/05/2015 | IP 71124.04   | Occupational Dose Assessment  |                      |
| 1           | 11/02/2015    | 11/05/2015 | IP 71151  | Performance Indicator Verification  |                      |
|             |               |            | <b>71124.08 - RADWASTE</b>                          |   | <b>1</b>             |
| 1           | 02/08/2016    | 02/12/2016 | IP 71124.08   | Radioactive Solid Waste Processing and Radioactive Material Handling, Storage, and Transportation |                      |
|             |               |            | <b>7111121 - CDBI</b>                               |   | <b>6</b>             |
| 1           | 03/07/2016    | 03/11/2016 | IP 7111121  | Component Design Bases Inspection   |                      |
| 1           | 03/21/2016    | 03/25/2016 | IP 7111121  | Component Design Bases Inspection   |                      |
| 1           | 04/04/2016    | 04/08/2016 | IP 7111121  | Component Design Bases Inspection   |                      |

This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.  
This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.

**Oyster Creek**  
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**01/01/2015 - 06/30/2016**

| Unit Number | Planned Dates |            | Inspection Activity                              | Title   | No. of Staff on Site |
|-------------|---------------|------------|--|---|----------------------|
|             | Start         | End        |  |   |                      |
|             |               |            | <b>71124 - 05 RAD MONITORING INSTRUMENTATION</b> |   | <b>1</b>             |
| 1           | 04/18/2016    | 04/22/2016 | IP 71124.05                                      | Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation  |                      |
|             |               |            | <b>ISFSI - ISFSI LOADING CAMPAIGN INSPECTION</b> |   | <b>1</b>             |
| 1           | 04/18/2016    | 04/22/2016 | IP 60855   | Operation Of An ISFSI   |                      |
| 1           | 04/18/2016    | 04/22/2016 | IP 60855.1                                       | Operation of an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation at Operating Plants |                      |
|             |               |            | <b>71124 - 01 EXPOSURE CONTROL</b>               |   | <b>1</b>             |
| 1           | 06/06/2016    | 06/09/2016 | IP 71124.01                                      | Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls                            |                      |
|             |               |            | <b>71124 - 02 ALARA</b>                          |   | <b>1</b>             |
| 1           | 06/06/2016    | 06/09/2016 | IP 71124.02                                      | Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls  |                      |

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