

AmerGen Energy Company, LLC
Oyster Creek
US Route 9 South
P.O. Box 388
Forked River, NJ 08731-0388

An Exelon/British Energy Company

OCT 10 2003

2130-03-20253
2120-032-2786

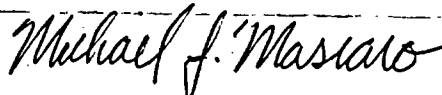
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Document Control Desk - NRC
Washington, DC 20555

Subject: Oyster Creek Generating Station
Docket 50-219
Sea Turtle Incidental Capture Report 2003-1

This report provides detailed information regarding the recent incidental capture of a juvenile Kemp's ridley sea turtle at the Oyster Creek Generating Station. The turtle was captured alive during the afternoon of September 24, 2003 after it was removed from the dilution water intake structure trash bars. As indicated on the attached incident report, the turtle was taken to the Marine Mammal Stranding Center in Brigantine, NJ for examination, care, and eventual safe release.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Malcolm Browne at (609) 971-4124.

Very truly yours,



Michael J. Massaro
Plant Manager

MJM/MEB/dl

Enclosure

cc: Ms. Carrie Upton
U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service Northeast Region
Protected Resources Division
One Blackburn Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930

IE23

cc: Mr. Hubert Miller, Administrator, Region 1
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
475 Allendale Road
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File 03085

OYSTER CREEK GENERATING STATION

Sea Turtle Incidental Capture Report 2003-1

At approximately 1455 hours on Wednesday September 24, 2003, an Oyster Creek Generating Station (OCGS) operator performing a routine cleaning of the trash racks noticed a sea turtle among the vegetation and debris removed from Bay # 6 of the dilution water intake structure. The turtle was found to be apparently healthy and moving about normally. OCGS Environmental personnel who took custody of the turtle confirmed it to be a juvenile Kemp's ridley sea turtle (Lepidochelys kempi). The water temperature at the time of the incidental capture was approximately 73 F (22.8 C) and OCGS was in operation at 100% power with four circulating water pumps and two dilution pumps in operation. Although it is impossible to say precisely how long the turtle had been on the trash bars prior to removal, the dilution water trash racks had been cleaned earlier the prior day at 1345 hours. The turtle was not observed during that trash rack inspection and cleaning.

The turtle measured 12.2 in (31.1 cm) carapace length straight line and weighed 11.5 lb (5.2 kg). Sex was not determined. Some small scrapes were observed on the dorsal and ventral surfaces of the carapace. No tags were present on the turtle when captured. USNRC and NMFS personnel were notified of the capture within 24 hours on September 24, 2003.

The turtle was taken to the Marine Mammal Stranding Center (MMSC) in Brigantine, NJ at approximately 1745 hours on September 24, 2003. At the MMSC, the turtle was examined and fed. The scrapes on the carapace were determined not to be a significant concern. The turtle was held at the MMSC for less than a day before it was tagged and released into near-shore Atlantic Ocean waters around Brigantine, NJ.

SEA TURTLE STRANDING AND SALVAGE NETWORK - STRANDING REPORT

OBSERVER'S NAME / ADDRESS / PHONE:

First Malcolm M.I. M.I. Last Browne
 Affiliation Marine Mammal Stranding Center
 Address P.O. BOX 773 Brigantine, NJ 08203

Area code/Phone number (609) 266-0538

STRANDING DATE:

Year 2003 Month 09 Day 24
 Turtle number by day 01 03-133

State coordinator must be notified within 24 hrs;
 this was done by ☒ phone (609)266-0538
☐ email ☐ fax

SPECIES: (check one)

- ☐ CC = Loggerhead
☐ CM = Green
☐ DC = Leatherback
☐ EI = Hawksbill
☒ LK = Kemp's ridley
☐ LO = Olive Ridley
☐ UN = Unidentified

Check Unidentified if not positive. Do Not Guess.

Photos taken? ☒ Yes ☐ No
 Species verified by state coordinator? ☒ Yes ☐ No

SEX: (check one)

- ☒ Immature, undetermined
☐ Female ☐ Male
 How was sex determined?
☐ Necropsy
☐ Tail length (adult only)
 Length of tail beyond carapace
 _____ cm / in

STRANDING LOCATION: ☐ Offshore (Atlantic or Gulf beach) ☒ Inshore (bay, river, sound, inlet, etc)

State New Jersey County Ocean
 Descriptive location (be specific) Oyster Creek Power Plant,
 Forked River

Latitude _____ Longitude _____

CONDITION: (check one)

- ☒ 0 = Alive
☐ 1 = Fresh dead
☐ 2 = Moderately decomposed
☐ 3 = Severely decomposed
☐ 4 = Dried carcass
☐ 5 = Skeleton, bones only

TAGS: Contact state coordinator before disposing of any tagged animal!

Flipper tags present? ☐ Yes ☒ No
 Check all 4 flippers. If found, record tag number(s) / tag location / return address

PIT tag scan? ☐ Yes ☒ No
 If found, record number / tag location

Coded wire tag scan? ☐ Yes ☒ No
 If positive response, record location (flipper)

Checked for living tag? ☐ Yes ☒ No
 If found, record location (scute number & side)

FINAL DISPOSITION: (check one)

- ☐ 1 = Left on beach where found; painted? ☐ Yes* ☐ No(5)
☐ 2 = Buried: ☐ on beach / ☐ off beach;
 carcass painted before buried? ☐ Yes* ☐ No
☐ 3 = Salvaged: ☐ all / ☐ part(s), what/why? _____
☐ 4 = Pulled up on beach/dune; painted? ☐ Yes* ☐ No
☐ 6 = Alive, released
☒ 7 = Alive, taken to rehab. facility, where?
Marine Mammal Stranding Center
☐ 8 = Left floating, not recovered; painted? ☐ Yes* ☐ No
☐ 9 = Disposition unknown, explain _____

*If painted, what color? _____

CARAPACE MEASUREMENTS: (see drawing)

Using callipers Circle unit
 Straight length (NOTCH-TIP) _____ cm / in
 Minimum length (NOTCH-NOTCH) _____ cm / in
 Straight width (Widest Point) _____ cm / in
 Using non-metal measuring tape Circle unit
 Curved length (NOTCH-TIP) 31.5 ☒ in
 Minimum length (NOTCH-NOTCH) 31 ☒ in
 Curved width (Widest Point) 30 ☒ in
 Weight ☒ actual / ☐ est. 11.5 kg ☒

Mark wounds / abnormalities on diagrams at left and describe below (note tar or oil, gear or debris entanglement, propeller damage, epibionts, papillomas, emaciation, etc.). Please note if no wounds / abnormalities are found.

Found in intake pipe at power plant. Minor abrasions to carapace, but no substantial damage. Old injury on left marginal scute, completely healed. Turtle was tagged SSL105 - Right foreflipper and SSL106 - Left foreflipper, and released on 39th St. and the beach in Brigantine on 09/25/03.

