

October 12, 2005

Ms. Dorothy Guzzo
State Historic Preservation Officer
Historic Preservation Office
P.O. Box 404
Trenton, NJ 08625-0404

SUBJECT: OYSTER CREEK NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION LICENSE RENEWAL
REVIEW (TAC NO. MC7625) (HPO-J2004-7021)

Dear Ms. Guzzo:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff is reviewing an application to renew the operating license for Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station (OCNGS), which is located in Lacey Township in Ocean County, New Jersey. The nearest major metropolitan areas to OCNGS include Newark, New Jersey, approximately 60 miles to the north; Atlantic City, New Jersey, approximately 35 miles to the south; and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, approximately 60 miles west of the OCNGS site. OCNGS is owned and operated by AmerGen Energy Company, LLC (AmerGen). The application for renewal was submitted by AmerGen on July 22, 2005, pursuant to the requirements of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 54 (10 CFR Part 54). The NRC has established that, as part of the review of any nuclear power plant license renewal action, a site-specific Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) augmenting its "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants" (GEIS), NUREG-1437, will be prepared under the provisions of 10 CFR Part 51, the NRC regulation that implements the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended. In accordance with 36 CFR 800.8, the SEIS will include analyses of potential impacts to historic and archaeological resources.

In the context of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, the NRC staff has determined that the area of potential effect (APE) for a license renewal action is the area at the power plant site and its immediate environs that may be impacted by post-license-renewal land-disturbing operations or projected refurbishment activities associated with the proposed action. The APE may extend beyond the immediate environs in those instances where post-license-renewal land-disturbing operations or projected refurbishment activities, specifically related to license renewal, may have a potential effect on known or proposed historic sites. This determination is made irrespective of ownership or control of the lands of interest.

While preparing its application, AmerGen contacted your office by letter dated October 7, 2004. In that letter, AmerGen stated that it has no plans to alter current operations or engage in any land-disturbing activities during the license renewal period, and therefore, it does not expect the operation of OCNGS through the license renewal term to affect adversely cultural or historic resources at the plant or its immediate environs. Your office responded by letter dated October 15, 2004, stating that no historic properties listed on or eligible to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places would be affected by the proposed action.

On November 1, 2005, the NRC will conduct two public scoping meetings at the Quality Inn located at 815 Route 37 in Toms River, New Jersey. You and your staff are invited to attend. The first session will convene at 1:30 p.m. and will continue until 4:30 p.m., as necessary. The second session will convene at 7:00 p.m., with a repeat of the overview portions of the meeting, and will continue until 10:00 p.m., as necessary. Your office will receive a copy of the draft SEIS along with a request for comments. The anticipated publication date for the draft SEIS is June 2006. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact the NRC's Senior Environmental Project Manager, Dr. Michael Masnik, at 301-415-1191 or by e-mail at MTM2@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,
/RA/
Pao-Tsin Kuo, Program Director
License Renewal and Environmental Impacts Program
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No.: 50-219

cc: See next page

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Pao-Tsin Kuo, Program Director
License Renewal and Environmental Impacts
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Sincerely,

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Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station

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