



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I
475 ALLENDALE ROAD
KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19406-1415

September 1, 2011

Mr. Michael J. Pacilio
Senior Vice President, Exelon Generation Company, LLC
President and Chief Nuclear Officer (CNO), Exelon Nuclear
4300 Winfield Rd.
Warrenville, IL 60555

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE LETTER FOR OYSTER CREEK NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION
(REPORT 05000219/2011006)

Dear Mr. Pacilio:

On August 9, 2011, the NRC completed its mid-cycle performance review of the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station. The NRC reviewed the most recent quarterly performance indicators (PIs) in addition to inspection results and enforcement actions from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of your facility during this period and its plans for future inspections at your facility. This performance review and enclosed inspection plan do not include security information. A separate letter will include the NRC's assessment of your performance in the Security Cornerstone and its security-related inspection plan.

The NRC determined the performance at Oyster Creek during the most recent quarter was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Action Matrix because all inspection findings had very low (i.e., green) safety significance, and all PIs indicated that your performance was within the nominal, expected range (i.e., green). Therefore, the NRC plans to conduct ROP baseline inspections at your facility.

The NRC evaluates cross-cutting themes to determine whether a substantive cross-cutting issue exists in a particular area and to encourage licensees to take appropriate actions before more significant performance issues emerge. Regarding Oyster Creek, the staff identified that there were five Green findings for the current twelve month assessment period with a documented cross-cutting aspect in the Human Performance cross-cutting area, and that there was a common cross-cutting theme associated with these findings. Specifically, the theme was associated with procedure adequacy, which was the most significant contributor to the five Green findings [H.2(c)].

In evaluating the scope of efforts and progress in addressing the cross-cutting theme, the NRC staff determined that Exelon has recognized the cross-cutting theme and has initiated action to develop an improvement plan. Therefore, the staff has determined that a substantive cross-cutting issue in the Human Performance cross-cutting area does not exist at this time. We will monitor your progress in the Human Performance cross-cutting area through the baseline inspection program, including a focused review of your proposed corrective action plan.

The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through December 31, 2012. In addition to baseline inspections, we also plan to conduct Inspection Procedure (IP) 60855.1, Operation of an ISFSI Independent Fuel Storage Installation at Operating Plants in November 2012. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. The inspections listed during the last nine months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the end-of-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.

In the days following the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear accident in Japan, the Commission directed the staff to establish a senior-level agency task force to conduct a methodical and systematic review of the NRC's processes and regulations to determine whether the agency should make additional improvements to its regulatory system. The NRC has since completed Temporary Instruction (TI) 183, "Follow-up to Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Station Fuel Damage Event," and TI-184, "Availability and Readiness Inspection of Severe Accident Management Guidelines (SAMGs)" at your facility. Results of these inspections can be found here: <http://www.nrc.gov/japan/japan-activities.html>. Additionally, on May 11, 2011, the agency issued NRC Bulletin 2011-01, "Mitigating Strategies," to confirm compliance with Order EA-02-026, subsequently imposed license conditions, and 10 CFR 50.54(hh)(2), and to determine the status of licensee mitigating strategies programs. On July 12, 2011, the NRC's Task Force made its recommendations to the Commission in its report, "Recommendations for Enhancing Reactor Safety in the 21st Century: The Near-Term Task Force Review of Insights from the Fukushima Daiichi Accident." The NRC is currently reviewing the Task Force's recommendations to determine what additional actions may be warranted.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of 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).

Please contact me at 610-337-5046 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,



Eugene M. DiPaolo, Acting Chief
Projects Branch 6
Division of Reactor Projects

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

Enclosure: Inspection Plan

cc w/encl: Distribution via ListServ

The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through December 31, 2012. In addition to baseline inspections, we also plan to conduct Inspection Procedure (IP) 60855.1, Operation of an ISFSI Independent Fuel Storage Installation at Operating Plants in November 2012. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. The inspections listed during the last nine months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the end-of-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.

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/RA/

Eugene M. DiPaolo, Acting Chief
Projects Branch 6
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Docket Nos.: 50-219
License Nos: DPR-16

Enclosure: Inspection Plan

cc w/encl: Distribution via ListServ

Distribution: See attached page

SUNSI Review Complete: CWN (Reviewer's Initials)

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Oyster Creek
Inspection / Activity Plan
07/01/2011 - 12/31/2012

Unit Number	Planned Dates Start End	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
		07/11EXM - OPERATOR LICENSING INITIAL EXAMS		3
1	07/11/2011 07/20/2011	U01831	FY11- OYSTER CREEK, INITIAL OL EXAM	
		HP-71124 - INSTRUMENTS / REMP / ISFSI		1
1	07/11/2011 07/15/2011	IP 60855.1	Operation of an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation at Operating Plants	
1	07/11/2011 07/15/2011	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
1	07/11/2011 07/15/2011	IP 71124.06	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment	
1	07/11/2011 07/15/2011	IP 71124.07	Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program	
		TI-177 - MANAGING GAS ACCUMULATION IN ECCS		2
1	09/12/2011 09/16/2011	IP 2515/177	Managing Gas Accumulation In Emergency Core Cooling, Decay Heat Removal & Containment Spray System	
		EP EX - EP EXERCISE EVALUATION		4
1	09/26/2011 09/30/2011	IP 7111401	Exercise Evaluation	
1	09/26/2011 09/30/2011	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes	
1	09/26/2011 09/30/2011	IP 71151-EP01	Drill/Exercise Performance	
1	09/26/2011 09/30/2011	IP 71151-EP02	ERO Drill Participation	
1	09/26/2011 09/30/2011	IP 71151-EP03	Alert & Notification System	
		HP-71124 - ACCESS/ALARA/AIR/DOSE/INSTRUMENTS/PI		1
1	10/17/2011 10/21/2011	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1	10/17/2011 10/21/2011	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	10/17/2011 10/21/2011	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1	10/17/2011 10/21/2011	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
1	10/17/2011 10/21/2011	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
1	10/17/2011 10/21/2011	IP 71124.08	Radioactive Solid Waste Processing and Radioactive Material Handling, Storage, and Transportation	
1	10/17/2011 10/21/2011	IP 71151-OR01	Occupational Exposure Control Effectiveness	
1	10/17/2011 10/21/2011	IP 71151-PR01	RETS/ODCM Radiological Effluent	
		5/14EXAM - OYSTER CREEK INITIAL OL EXAM		4
1	04/16/2012 04/20/2012	U01848	FY12-OYSTER CREEK INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSING EXAM	
1	05/14/2012 05/18/2012	U01848	FY12-OYSTER CREEK INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSING EXAM	
		7111117 - PERMANENT PLANT MODS		3
1	01/23/2012 01/27/2012	IP 7111117T	Evaluations of Changes, Tests, or Experiments and Permanent Plant Modifications	
1	02/06/2012 02/10/2012	IP 7111117T	Evaluations of Changes, Tests, or Experiments and Permanent Plant Modifications	
		7111107T - TRIENNIAL HEAT SINK		1
1	02/27/2012 03/02/2012	IP 7111107T	Heat Sink Performance	
		INSP - ACCESS/ALARA/AIRBORNE/DOSE ASSESS		1
1	03/12/2012 03/16/2012	IP 2515/175	Emergency Response Organization, Drill/Exercise Performance Indicator, Program Review	

This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.

This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.

Oyster Creek
Inspection / Activity Plan
07/01/2011 - 12/31/2012

Unit Number	Planned Dates Start	Planned Dates End	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
INSP - ACCESS/ALARA/AIRBORNE/DOSE ASSESS					
1	03/12/2012	03/16/2012	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	1
1	03/12/2012	03/16/2012	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	03/12/2012	03/16/2012	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1	03/12/2012	03/16/2012	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
INSP - ACCESS/ALARA/INST/EFFLUENTS					
1	07/16/2012	07/20/2012	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	1
1	07/16/2012	07/20/2012	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	07/16/2012	07/20/2012	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
1	07/16/2012	07/20/2012	IP 71124.06	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment	
71152B - PI&R					
1	08/13/2012	08/17/2012	IP 71152B	Problem Identification and Resolution	4
1	08/27/2012	08/31/2012	IP 71152B	Problem Identification and Resolution	
EP PROGR - EP PROGRAM INSPECTION					
1	08/27/2012	08/31/2012	IP 7111402	Alert and Notification System Testing	1
1	08/27/2012	08/31/2012	IP 7111403	Emergency Preparedness Organization Staffing and Augmentation System	
1	08/27/2012	08/31/2012	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes	
1	08/27/2012	08/31/2012	IP 7111405	Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies	
INSP - ACCESS/INST/EFFLUENTS					
1	09/10/2012	09/14/2012	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	1
1	09/10/2012	09/14/2012	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
1	09/10/2012	09/14/2012	IP 71124.06	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment	
7111108G - INSERVICE INSPECTION					
1	10/22/2012	10/26/2012	IP 7111108G	Inservice Inspection Activities - BWR	1
INSP - ACCESS/ALARA/AIR/INST/ISFSI/PI VERIF					
1	11/12/2012	11/16/2012	IP 60855.1	Operation of an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation at Operating Plants	1
1	11/12/2012	11/16/2012	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1	11/12/2012	11/16/2012	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	11/12/2012	11/16/2012	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1	11/12/2012	11/16/2012	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
1	11/12/2012	11/16/2012	IP 71151-PR01	RETS/ODCM Radiological Effluent	

Comments:

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