



Jersey Central Power & Light Company
Madison Avenue at Punch Bowl Road
Morristown, New Jersey 07960
(201) 455-8200

OYSTER CREEK NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION
Forked River, New Jersey 08731

Nonroutine Environmental Operating Report No. 50-219/79-6

Report Date

September 19, 1979

Occurrence Date

September 5, 1979

Identification of Occurrence

Exceeding a limiting condition for operation as defined in the Environmental Technical Specifications, paragraph 2.1.4.3, when only one dilution pump was operating for a period of 26 minutes. This event is considered to be a non-routine environmental operating occurrence as defined in the Technical Specifications, Appendix "B", paragraph 5.6.2.

Conditions Prior to Occurrence

The plant was operating at steady state power.

Power:	Reactor, 1905 MWt
	Electrical 644 MWe
Dilution Pump Flow:	5.20×10^5 gpm
Circulating Pump Flow:	4.60×10^5 gpm

Prior to the occurrence, the temperature in Oyster Creek as measured at the U.S. Route #9 bridge was 92°F., two dilution pumps were in operation, one dilution pump was being held in reserve, four circulating water pumps were in operation, and the intake and discharge temperatures were 83°F. and 103°F., respectively.

Description of Occurrence

Dilution pump 1-1 tripped out of operation at 1819 due to low seal water pressure. Dilution pump 1-3 continued in operation since partial pressure restoration occurred when seal water isolated to pump 1-1 upon its trip. The reserve pump was not started since it was feared that doing so would decrease seal pressure again and result in both pumps being tripped. The seal water strainers and pumps were found clogged with debris, which caused the system pressure to drop below the minimum pressure setpoint of 8 psig. Strainers and pumps were unclogged, system pressure was restored, and dilution pump 1-1 was restarted at 1845. During the 26-minute occurrence, the plant intake and discharge temperatures remained constant. The bridge temperature rose from 92°F. at 1830 to 95°F. at 1900, and returned to 92°F. at 1930.

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Apparent Cause of Occurrence

The cause of this event was the trip of one dilution pump.

Analysis of Occurrence

Dilution pump flow was halted for 26 minutes, which ultimately raised the U.S. Route #9 bridge temperature 3°F. Since the temperature perturbation in the discharge canal was only 3°F. with a maximum temperature of 95°F., no unusual environmental effects were expected and none were observed.

Corrective Action

Immediate corrective action was to clean the seal water strainers and pumps, and to restart a dilution pump. Further corrective action will begin with the initiation of a study dealing specifically with dilution pump problems. An engineering request will be generated for the purpose of upgrading the dilution pump seal and cooling water system.

Failure Data

Not applicable.