

POWER AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

JAMES A. FITZPATRICK NUCLEAR POWER PLANT



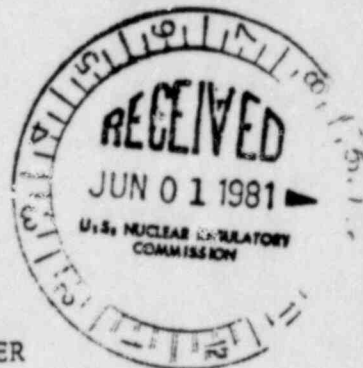
RAYMOND J. PASTERNAK
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May 22, 1981
SERIAL: JAFP-81-0533

Boyce H. Grier, Director
United States Nuclear Regulator, Commission
Region I
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406



SUBJECT: NRC I & E BULLETIN 81-03-FLOW BLOCKAGE OF COOLING WATER
TO SAFETY SYSTEM COMPONENTS BY CORBICULA SP. (ASIATIC
CLAM) AND MYTILUS SP. (MUSSEL)

Dear Mr. Grier:

The FitzPatrick Plant staff has completed a review of the subject bulletin and provides below our response.

With reference to Item 1, the presence of CORBICULA sp. was investigated in the source cooling water for the James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant. MYTILUS sp. was not reviewed as this genus is associated with salt water environments. An ecological consulting firm was engaged by the Power Authority to perform an ecological assessment as to the presence of CORBICULA sp. in Lake Ontario in the area of Nine Mile Point. This assessment entailed benthic surveys to the east and west of the site, near the inlet and discharge structures for the James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant and Nine Mile Point Unit #1 and in the inlet forebay of Nine Mile Point Unit #1 (Attachment 1). In addition, the debris from the inlet canal travelling screens and service water strainers were inspected by biological consulting personnel on 35 impingement samples, collected for a period of 24 hours each, from January 1, 1981 to May 12, 1981. A review of past aquatic ecology studies was also conducted to act as supporting information. The 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977 and 1978 Nine Mile Point Aquatic Ecology Reports were reviewed for the presence of CORBICULA sp. in the benthic samples. The above referenced aquatic studies included an extensive benthic program with up to 100 samples taken from four transects at five depth contours in the general area of Nine Mile Point. No evidence of CORBICULA sp. was noted in any of the sample inspections or surveys.

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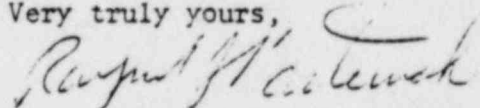
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In addition to the investigations conducted at the FitzPatrick facility several additional inspections were made at the Nine Mile Point Unit #1 Nuclear Generating Station. These additional inspections were possible because the Nine Mile Point Station is presently conducting a refueling outage. Between March 11 and March 14, 1981, at Nine Mile Point Unit 1 the pump strainers of various safety-related systems were inspected. These systems included: Emergency service water, diesel generator cooling, raw water containment spray and fire protection systems (normal and emergency). Finally, the Nine Mile Unit #1 condenser water box was inspected on April 4, 1981 by station personnel. Again no evidence of CORBICULA sp. was noted in any of the inspected systems. The inspections conducted at Nine Mile Point Unit #1 are relevant to the conditions at the James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant because of the close proximity of the two facilities (inlet structures are located approximately 4,000 feet apart) and the fact that they both draw cooling water from the same source. The inspections and investigations noted above provide reasonable evidence that neither CORBICULA sp. or MYTILUS sp. is present in the local environment.

With reference to Item 4, the plant fire protection and safety-related cooling water systems are tested on a periodic basis as required by Technical Specifications. These surveillance tests and the continuing studies which are part of the Nine Mile Point Aquatic Ecology Program should provide effective timely detection of CORBICULA sp. in the local environment. In addition, since the FitzPatrick Plant intake structure and plant cooling water systems take suction from a large body of water (Lake Ontario) and the design considered the lowest expected level of Lake Ontario, no consideration of high velocities due to low water level is considered necessary.

Very truly yours,



RAYMOND J. PASTERNAK
RESIDENT MANAGER

RJP:BG:jlk
ATTACHMENTS
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Subscribed and Sworn to before
me this 22 day of May, 1981.


Notary Public

BEVERLY R. PRUCNAL, #4628499
Notary Public - State of New York
Appointed in Oswego County
My Commission Expires March 30, 1982

Boyce H. Grier
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
SUBJECT: NRC I & E BULLETIN 81-03

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ATTACHMENT 1

SURVEY IN THE VICINITY OF THE NINE MILE POINT AND JAMES A. FITZPATRICK
GENERATING STATIONS TO DETERMINE THE PRESENCE OR ABSENCE OF THE ASIATIC
CLAM, CORBICULA SP