

**GPU Nuclear**

P.O. Box 388
Forked River, New Jersey 08731
609-693-6000
Writer's Direct Dial Number:

August 15, 1983

Dr. Thomas E. Murley, Administrator
Region I
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Dear Dr. Murley:

Subject: Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station
Docket No. 50-219
Recirculation System Piping
(IE Bulletin 82-03)

During the week of July 11, 1983, your staff conducted an unannounced inspection of the Oyster Creek Recirculation System Piping Inspection Program. During the exit interview for that inspection, it was stated that a NRC team would be visiting the site to conduct an independent confirmatory inspection of selected welds. Since that time there has been a continuing dialogue between your staff and my staff. Most recently, on July 26, 1983, at a meeting held at Oyster Creek, members of your staff identified several areas where their interpretation of the recirculation loop inspection data differed from ours. On July 29, 1983, in a meeting with the resident inspectors, I described our proposed program to resolve these differences. The purpose of this letter is to document to you the program that was described in that meeting and certain other actions subsequently taken.

The program consists of two steps. The first step was to bring in outside parties to independently evaluate our data. Mr. Ted G. Lambert, PE, of the consulting firm Lambert, MacGill, Thomas, Inc. was at Oyster Creek on July 29 and 30, 1983 to carry out this evaluation. Ebasco, Inc. also reviewed the data during the week of August 1, 1983.

The second step of our program is to proceed with penetrant testing (PT) of portions of selected welds. Originally, as stated in the July 29, 1983 meeting, this step was to consist of tests on NG-B-5 and NG-D-4. After further consideration, GPUN has decided to proceed with tests on portions of NG-B-5, NG-D-11 and NG-A-14. The portions of the welds to undergo PT were selected based on minimization of irrelevant indication and the preliminary findings of the outside parties mentioned above. We performed the PT on NG-B-5 over the weekend of July 30 and 31, 1983 and the results reveal no relevant indications; we expect to perform the test on NG-D-11 during the week of August 15, 1983, and the test on NG-A-14 during the week of August 22, 1983.

8309070372 830815
PDR ADOCK 05000219
Q PDR

GPU Nuclear is a part of the General Public Utilities System

TEI
1/0

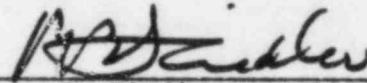
August 15, 1983

We have chosen to follow a two-step program of evaluation and testing in order to resolve any differences in interpreting the inspection data on recirculation system piping at Oyster Creek. Our position is that if the PT of these welds does not identify relevant indications where the UT identified possible Intergranular Stress Corrosion Cracking (IGSCC), that this will satisfactorily demonstrate that GPUN staff has properly characterized the UT indications and no further PT examinations need be performed.

The results of our program will be included in our final submittal under IE Bulletin 82-03.

If you have any questions on this subject, please contact me or Mr. Michael Laggart of my staff at (609) 971-4643.

Very truly yours,



Peter B. Fiedler
Vice President and Director
Oyster Creek

PBF:jal

cc: Mr. J. Lombardo
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
7920 Norfolk Avenue
Bethesda, MA 20014

NRC Resident Inspector
Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station
Forked River, NJ 08731