



Enclosure 4

GPU Nuclear

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Writer's Direct Dial Number:

June 17, 1983

Mr. Richard W. Starostecki,
SALP Board Chairman
Director, Division of Project and
Resident Programs
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region I
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Dear Mr. Starostecki:

Subject: Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station
Docket No. 50-219
Systematic Assessment of Licensee
Performance (SALP)

Your letter of April 29, 1983, provided the results of the SALP Board's assessment. In response to your letter and the follow-up meeting of May 12, 1983, where discussions took place regarding the assessment, we submit the following comments in the areas of Plant Operations, Maintenance, and Surveillances.

PLANT OPERATIONS

Three areas identified in the assessment of Plant Operations warrant comments in order to provide additional information regarding our progress to date.

As identified in the assessment, there did exist a backlog of items needing Plant Operations Review Committee (PORC) attention. The backlog was in fact due to the large number of modifications scheduled for the refueling outage and our procedure upgrade program. That backlog has now been eliminated.

With regard to control of design changes and modifications, the assessment pointed out that we were undergoing a major reorganization in the Maintenance and Construction and Technical Functions Divisions; and as a result, the necessary interfaces between various corporate divisions and the plant staff had not been formalized in administrative procedures. Management attention in this area enabled us to formalize the controls necessary prior to the start of our refueling outage. The procedural systems are now in place and functioning.

We recognized in early 1982 that our radiochemistry program needed upgrading. At that time we established both short and long term goals to upgrade our program and the goals we established for 1982, were realized. Significant technical expertise has been added to our staff and operational chemistry functions have been transferred to our Plant Operations Department. In addition, technical expertise

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and assistance from corporate headquarters is now being integrated into our program. A Chemistry technician training program is now in effect which includes a minimum of 240 hours/year of formal training. New laboratory equipment has been purchased and a new laboratory will be constructed during this current outage. Negotiations are currently underway with the Union (IBEW) to upgrade entry level requirements for Chemistry Technicians as well as annual requalification for Chemistry Technicians. Continued improvements during 1983 will be realized.

MAINTENANCE

We believe we have obtained our maintenance goals and objectives set forth in our SALP response of last year. The major reorganization of our Maintenance and Construction Division has been effected which resulted in firmly establishing our Work Management System for corrective maintenance and all modification work.

There is a need to improve the quality of work and knowledge of our maintenance personnel, and our efforts will be directed in this area. We intend to upgrade our training programs with more emphasis on work related activities. A training center for maintenance personnel is nearing completion which will allow a greater portion of time to be devoted to hands on training rather than just lectures. In addition, our second line supervisors will take an active part in the training process. Training conducted by our most experienced personnel on plant specific equipment will lessen the amount of rework now required.

SURVEILLANCES

The assessment states, "Procedural inadequacies during the Integrated Leak Rate Test resulted in a valving error that caused radioactive contamination of a portion of the reactor building service air system." The statement is incorrect in that it was not a valving error, but a design error which caused contamination of the service air system.

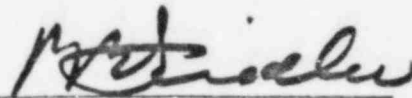
With regard to the integrated leak rate test, the procedural deficiencies noted in the assessment have been corrected by thorough procedure review and revisions. In addition, our Startup and Test Department will assist in the next integrated leak rate test which is scheduled prior to startup from our current outage.

The administrative control procedure for the IST program was approved in January of 1983 and became effective in February.

Mr. Richard W. Starostecki,
SALP Board Chairman

Dialogue provided by the SALP process enables both the NRC and the Licensee to better focus on those areas in need of management attention. If there are any questions regarding our comments 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

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