Jersey Central Power & Light Company

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MEMBER OF THE General Public Utilities Corporation SYSTEM

May 6, 1975

Mr. George Lear, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #3
Division of Reactor Licensing
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Mr. Lear:

Subject: Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station
Docket No. 50-219
Ventilation Exhaust of Reactor Feedwater Pump and Condensate Pump Area

The following responds to your letter of March 31, 1975 concerning the possibility of a radioactive release from the ventilation exhaust of the reactor feed pump room.

During February, 1974, an air sample of the feed pump room was taken approximately one foot away from the room exhaust duct to evaluate releases. The sample consisted of one (1) Gelman E particulate filter and a Cesco Type B charcoal filter and ran for twelve (12) days at an average flow rate of 2 CFM. The sampling was repeated during late March and continued into April until the beginning of the annual refueling outage. In August and early September, 1974, two (2) more samples were taken in the same manner.

These samples showed very low levels of both particulate material and radioiodine. Using the NRC model, it was calculated that an infant drinking 1 liter of milk per day from a cow grazing for six months of the year at the site boundary would accumulate 0.36 mrem per year. Exposure from any other isotopes found on the filter were calculated to be in the 10^{-5} to 10^{-6} mrem/year range.

Jersey Central Power & Light Company is now participating in a study by the Nuclear Environmental Services Division of Science Applications, Inc. (funded by the Electric Power Research Institute) to determine the important sources and means of generation of radioiodine at nuclear power plants. In conjunction with this program, a sampler has been installed in the exhaust duct of the feed pump room ventilation system. Based on the results of this study, we will determine the type of sampling required to adequately monitor the releases.

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The presently installed sampling probe is operated continuously and the filters are analyzed every two weeks. This will be continued until a permanent installation, if required, which monitors the discharge to the environment is operable. At the present time, the air leaving the feed pump room is sampled, and it is assumed that all of the air entering the duct is discharged. In actual operation, however, some or all of this air may be returned to the feed pump room.

The results of analyses performed to date do not categorize the effluent from the feedwater pump and condensate pump area as a "principal gaseous effluent discharge path" discussed in Regulatory Guide 1.21. The equipment selected for permanent installation will be designed for continuous operation but not equipped with alarms for equipment failure or high release rate. Results of samples measured will be reported in annual or semiannual reports as required.

Very truly yours,

Ivan R. Finfrock, Jr.

Ivan R. Finfrock, Jr.
Vice President

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