

Jersey Central Power & Light Company

MADISON AVENUE AT PUNCH BOWL ROAD • MORRISTOWN, N. J. 07960 • 539-6111

March 6, 1970

Dr. Peter A. Morris, Director
Division of Reactor Licensing
United States Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D. C. 20545

Subject: Oyster Creek Unit No. 1 Control Rod Drives

Dear Dr. Morris:

In accordance with your letter of November 6, 1969, on the above subject, we have reviewed the accumulated operating experience and test results obtained during the start-up test program, and conclude that continued operation without the inner filters does not present a reactor safety problem. At the present time seven of the drives do have filters of varying wire mesh size, which were left in for the purpose of monitoring their effect on scram time. There has been no increase in the average scram time of the monitored drives which include the seven drives that still have an inner filter.

While there might be some long range maintenance and economic advantage to having a 10 mil mesh inner filter in the Oyster Creek drives, this cannot be firmly concluded at this time. Since the absence of these filters does not effect the scram time and, therefore, does not present a reactor safety problem, there is no justification for a costly outage of one to two weeks that would be required to install these filters. The 10 mil mesh filters have been ordered, and if drive trouble that can be attributed to the absence of these filters is experienced, they will be installed in the drives.

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Dr. Peter A. Morris

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March 6, 1970

We plan to keep in service for at least one year a high speed recording device to monitor the scram time of a selected number of the drives, including some with inner filters and some without. If the average scram time for the drives monitored does not exhibit any unusual or unexpected change, we intend to dispense with this monitoring equipment and rely on the Technical Specification surveillance program which calls for determining the scram time of each operable control rod each refueling outage.

*They carefully
overd adhering
to the same
commitments as
contained in the
DRR letter
of Nov 6, 1969.*

Very truly yours,

Geo. H. Ritter
Geo. H. Ritter
Vice President

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