

Jersey Central Power & Light Company

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

December 24, 1969

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

Subject: Oyster Creek No. 1 Main Steam Isolation Valves
Docket No. 50-219

Dear Dr. Morris:

Confirming our telephone conversation of last Tuesday on the above subject, it was observed during the test program after operation at 800, 1200, and 1600 MWt that the rate of pressure rise in the volume between the isolation valves and the turbine stop and bypass valves after valve closure was higher when isolation valve NSO3B was closed and NSO4B was opened than when any other combination of isolation valves was used to effect isolation. For example, check measurements made on December 13, 1969, indicated the rate of pressure rise was about 90 psi per minute (from 180 psig to 360 psig in two minutes) under these conditions with reactor pressure at about 880 psig whereas with other valve combinations typical pressure rise rate was 20 to 30 psi per minute.

There are a number of reasons why the pressure rise may occur, such as, the transfer of sensible heat from the large mass of hot steam pipes to the relatively smaller mass of cooler steam in the closed volume or such as the leak back of fluid from connected systems other than the reactor vessel or such as leakage from the reactor vessel into the volume through the isolation valves. With the test data at hand, it is not possible to tell which of these mechanisms (or perhaps others) is most influential. However, because of the differences in the rate of pressure rise with different isolation valve closure combinations as indicated above, it could be inferred that valve NSO3B is leaking.

Why does
this not
occur in
the other
steam line?
RTE

COPY SENT REGION

9 9272

DEC 31 1969

8305030630 700603
PDR ADDCK 05000219
PDR

3955

Dr. Peter A. Morris

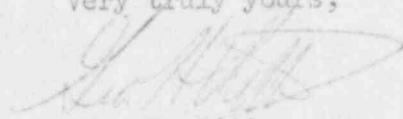
-2-

December 24, 1969

Consequently, after review by the Plant Operations Review Committee and the General Office Review Board, a decision was made that at the next shutdown planned for maintenance and in any event no later than February 1, 1970, the unit will be shutdown and all main steam isolation valves retested to establish conformance with applicable provisions of the Technical Specifications before the unit is restarted.

with Jan!

Very truly yours,



Geo. H. Ritter
Vice President

GHR:ep

Copy to Mr. Robert W. Kirkman, Director
Division of Compliance, Region 1
United States Atomic Energy Commission
970 Broad Street
Newark, New Jersey 07102



3955