



GPU Nuclear Corporation

Post Office Box 388
Route 9 South
Forked River, New Jersey 08731-0388
609 971-4000
Writer's Direct Dial Number:

May 14, 1984

Mr. Dennis M. Crutchfield, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #5
Division of Licensing
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Mr. Crutchfield:

Subject: Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station
Docket No. 50-219
Containment Vent and Purge System

Reference: Letter, P.B. Fiedler to D.M. Crutchfield,
dated January 13, 1983

The purpose of this letter is to revise and expand the response submitted by the reference letter to item 4 of your January 4, 1982 inquiry into Oyster Creek's containment vent and purge system. Item 4 requested GPU Nuclear to provide information concerning the provisions to protect structures and safety-related equipment located downstream of the purge isolation valves against loss of function from the environment created by the escaping air and steam following a LOCA.

As it is now understood, the basis for NRC item 4 was the Branch Technical Position CSB 6-4, paragraph B.5.b. This position defines the safety-related equipment to include ductwork that performs a safety function. Providing a delay time to start opening the filter inlet valve after 5 seconds will protect the SGTS from the pressure surge but will not protect the ductwork that is required to maintain the required negative pressure in the Reactor Building. Therefore, in order to protect the ductwork and the filter units and satisfy item 4, a relief vent will be installed in the 18" diameter drywell purge exhaust duct inside the reactor building. Any escaping air and steam that will be relieved/released inside the building during a LOCA will eventually be picked up by the SGTS for iodine removal prior to release to the outside environs. The relief vent will open upon detection of excessive positive pressure in the 18" diameter duct, thereby protecting the ductwork connected to SGTS in the tunnel. Remaining escaping steam that managed

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to get to the filter inlet valve is not high enough in moisture content to damage the filter train as any moisture in the steam will be filtered out by the pre-filter. Once the duct pressure is reduced to an acceptable level, the relief vent will close. This relief vent will be installed during the cycle 11 refueling outage.

If you have any questions, please contact me or the Oyster Creek Licensing Manager at (609)971-4643.

Very truly yours,



Peter B. Fiedler
Vice President and Director
Oyster Creek

PBF:RJ:dam

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

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