



UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE OF REGULATORY OPERATIONS
REGION 1
970 BROAD STREET
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY 07102

RO Inquiry Report No. 50-219/73-020

Licensee: Jersey Central Power & Light Company
Madison Avenue at Punch Bowl Road
Morristown, New Jersey 07960

License No.: DPR-16

Facility: Oyster Creek
Forked River, New Jersey

Descriptive Title: Fish Kill from Decrease in Cooling Water Temperatures

Prepared by: C. O. Gallina 1/24/73
C. O. Gallina, Ph.D., Radiation Specialist Date

A. Date and Manner AEC was Informed:

Report was received on January 22, 1973 from RO:I consultant, Mr. John Reintjes (Atlantic Estuarine Fisheries Center, Beaufort, North Carolina) who was investigating a fish kill at Oyster Creek (Reference RO Inquiry Report No. 50-219/73-01Q).

B. Description of Particular Event or Circumstance:

Mr. Reintjes report indicates that estimates of the total number of fish (menhaden) killed at Oyster Creek during the period of December 29, 1972 through January 10, 1973 range from 18,000 to 58,000. These numbers are extrapolated estimates based on very limited sampling, and are only estimates of the fish to be found in the surface ice. It is highly probable that an even greater number of menhaden could be found on the bottom of the finger lagoons since these fish have very small swim bladders and usually do not surface when killed. Based on very limited sampling by the New Jersey Division of Fish, Game and Shellfish, and taking into account both the surface and bottom estimates of fish killed

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the menhaden mortality could have been as high as 1.2 million.

The estimates presented in the consultants report are as follows:

<u>Source</u>	<u>Fish Killed (Surface ice)</u>	<u>Fish Killed (Total)</u>
Dr. Charles Wurtz (licensee consultant)	18,000	-
N.J. Division of Fish, Game & Shellfish	23,000	1,200,000
Mr. Mallie (Briarwood Yacht Basin)*	58,000	-

C. Action by Licensee:

The licensee is continuing its evaluation of this particular occurrence and studies will be conducted in order to alleviate the problem in the future. The licensee stated that an information report of the incident would be submitted by February 12, 1973.

*Information received via Mid-Atlantic Coastal Fisheries Center,
Sandy Hook, New Jersey.