

December 7, 1999

Mr. Sander Levin
Acting Director
GPU Nuclear Incorporated
Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station
P.O. Box 388
Forked River, New Jersey 08731

SUBJECT: NRC INTEGRATED INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-219/99-08

Dear Mr. Levin:

On November 7, 1999, the NRC completed an integrated inspection at your Oyster Creek reactor facility. The enclosed report presents the results of that inspection.

During the six-week period covered by this inspection report, your conduct of activities at the Oyster Creek facility was characterized by safe operations, sound engineering and maintenance practices, and careful radiological work controls. However, we noted two examples of less than thorough engineering support to operations. First, an inaccurate core maneuvering plan challenged operations during a planned maintenance activity of the control rod system, in part, due to informal communications. Second, the potential impact on operability of the core spray system due to a long-standing deficiency with the pump's motor heaters was not properly communicated to operations personnel. Although, the issue of the motor heaters had been raised by operations on more than one occasion, the resolution was not clear to operators when the inspector raised the issue a third time.

Based on the results of this inspection, the NRC has determined that two violations of NRC requirements occurred. These violations are being treated as Non-Cited Violations (NCV) consistent with Section VII.B.1.a of the Enforcement Policy. One NCV involves the failure to control vehicles in the protected area, and the second NCV pertains to the failure to obtain NRC approval for a procedure to dispose of trace concentrations of licensed material on property that is not considered as part of the NRC licensed Oyster Creek plant site. These NCVs are discussed in the subject report. If you contest the violations or severity level of these NCVs, you should provide a response within 30 days of the date of this inspection report, with the basis for your denial, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Document Control Desk, Washington, DC 20555-0001, with a copies to the Regional Administrator, Region I; the Director, Office of Enforcement, United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001; and the Resident Inspector at the Oyster Creek facility.

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PDR ADOCK

Mr. Sander Levin

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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and the enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR). Should you have any questions regarding this report, please contact me at 610-337-5234.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

Peter W. Eselgroth, Chief
Projects Branch 7
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket/License: 50-219/DPR-16
72-1004

Enclosure: NRC Inspection Report No. 50-219/99-08

cc w/encl:

G. Busch, Manager, Nuclear Safety & Licensing
M. Laggart, Manager, Licensing & Vendor Audits
State of New Jersey

Mr. Sander Levin

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