

March 6, 2000

Mr. Michael B. Roche  
Vice President and Director  
GPU Nuclear, Inc.  
Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station  
P.O. Box 388  
Forked River, NJ 08731

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION - GENERIC LETTER 96-05,  
"PERIODIC VERIFICATION OF DESIGN-BASIS CAPABILITY OF SAFETY-  
RELATED MOTOR-OPERATED VALVES," OYSTER CREEK NUCLEAR  
GENERATING STATION (TAC NO. M97078)

Dear Mr. Roche:

On September 18, 1996, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued Generic Letter (GL) 96-05, "Periodic Verification of Design-Basis Capability of Safety-Related Motor-Operated Valves," requesting each nuclear power plant licensee to establish a program, or to ensure the effectiveness of its current program, to verify on a periodic basis that safety-related motor-operated valves (MOVs) continue to be capable of performing their safety functions within the current licensing bases of the facility.

On April 23, 1998, you submitted an updated response to GL 96-05 indicating its intent to implement the Joint Owners Group (JOG) Program on MOV Periodic Verification. The NRC staff has encouraged licensees to participate in the industry-wide JOG program to provide a benefit in reactor safety by sharing expertise and information on MOV performance and to increase the efficiency of GL 96-05 activities at nuclear plants. Licensee participation in the JOG program also minimizes the amount of information necessary for the NRC staff to review each licensee's response to GL 96-05. As a result, the NRC staff requires only limited information to complete its GL 96-05 review for Oyster Creek.

The enclosed request for additional information (RAI) was discussed with George Busch of your staff on December 22, 1999, and it was agreed that your response would be submitted within 60 days of the date of this letter. We attempted unsuccessfully several times to set-up a

conference call with your staff to clarify this request for additional information. Your staff then declined the opportunity for a conference call. If you have any questions or would like to schedule a conference call, please call me. I may be reached at (301) 415-1261.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Helen N. Pastis, Sr. Project Manager, Section 1  
Project Directorate I  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-219

Enclosure: RAI

cc w/encl: See next page

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REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

OYSTER CREEK NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION

RESPONSE TO GENERIC LETTER 96-05, "PERIODIC VERIFICATION

OF DESIGN-BASIS CAPABILITY OF SAFETY-RELATED MOTOR-OPERATED VALVES

1. The Joint Owners Group (JOG) program focuses on the potential age-related increase in the thrust or torque required to operate valves under their design-basis conditions. In the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) safety evaluation (SE) on the JOG program, dated October 30, 1997, the NRC specified that licensees are responsible for addressing the thrust or torque delivered by the motor-operated valve (MOV) motor actuator and its potential degradation. Describe the plan at Oyster Creek for ensuring adequate ac and dc MOV motor actuator output capability, including consideration of guidance in Limitorque Technical Update 98-01 and its Supplement 1. Clarify if there are any dc-powered MOVs in the Oyster Creek Generic Letter 96-05 program. Briefly discuss the MOV parameters that are trended in order to detect degradation of MOV performance.
2. The licensee's letter dated March 17, 1997, states that the maximum interval between MOV static diagnostic tests will not exceed 10 years. In the NRC SE dated October 30, 1997, on the Westinghouse Owners Group (WOG) Topical Report MPR-1807 describing the JOG program, the NRC staff stated that MOVs tested at frequencies beyond 5 years will need to be grouped with other MOVs that will be tested at frequencies less than 5 years in order to validate assumptions for the longer test intervals. The NRC staff stated that this review must include valve thrust (or torque) requirements and actuator output capability. The licensee should describe how its MOV static diagnostic testing program will satisfy this condition of the NRC SE.

ENCLOSURE

M. Roche  
GPU Nuclear, Inc.

cc:

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