OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT NOTIFICATION OF SIGNIFICANT ENFORCEMENT ACTION

Licensee:

GPU Nuclear, Inc. (EA 98-220)

Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station

Docket No. 50-219

Subject: PROPOSED IMPOSITION OF CIVIL PENALTY - \$55,000

This is to inform the Commission that a Notice of Violation and Proposed Imposition of Civil Penalty in the amount of \$55,000 will be issued on or about June 15, 1998 to GPU Nuclear, Inc. This action is based on a Severity Level III problem involving inoperability of three of five Automatic Depressurization Valves, as well as design errors and apparent qualification concerns that contributed to the inoperability. The two violations are classified in the aggregate at Severity Level III. Because this was not the first escalated enforcement action within the past two years, the staff considered whether credit was warranted for identification and corrective action. Credit was not warranted for identification because the violations were identified by the NRC. Credit was warranted for corrective actions because GPU Nuclear, Incorporated's corrective actions were considered prompt and comprehensive.

It should be noted that the licensee has not been specifically informed of the enforcement action. The schedule of issuance and notification is:

Mailing of Notice Telephone Notification of Licensee June 15, 1998 June 15, 1998

The State of New Jersey will be notified.

The licensee has thirty days from the date of the Notice in which to respond. Following NRC evaluation of the response, the civil penalties may be remitted, mitigated, or imposed by Order.

Contacts: H. Miller, RI, (610) 337-5299, T. Walker, RI, (610) 337-5381

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PRELIMINARY INFORMATION - NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE UNTIL VERIFICATION THAT LICENSEE HAS RECEIVED ACTION

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