



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Division of Environmental Safety and Health

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JON S. CORZINE
Governor

LISA P. JACKSON
Commissioner

March 10, 2008

Mr. Joseph Monti
26 Morton Drive
Lavallette, New Jersey 08735

Dear Mr. Monti:

Commissioner Jackson has asked me to respond on her behalf to your correspondence of February 21, 2008 regarding your concerns on the continued operation of the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station.

As you may be aware, the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has sole regulatory control over the Oyster Creek operating license and the pending 20 year license renewal application. Throughout the license renewal process, the Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), Bureau of Nuclear Engineering, continues to critically observe NRC inspections of Oyster Creek, especially any related to license renewal, and reviews license renewal submittals made by Oyster Creek to the NRC.

New Jersey, through the NJDEP, reviews, regulates and issues New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NJPDES) permits for industrial facilities, including Oyster Creek. The NRC is not involved in the approval process for these NJPDES permits. Oyster Creek has applied for a renewal of their NJPDES permit (No. NJ0005550). This application and various related studies are under review by the NJDEP. There are currently significant issues being raised by the NJDEP related to issuance of this permit, including the possibility of requiring cooling towers at the Oyster Creek facility. The NJDEP recognizes the complex issues associated with cooling water for the Oyster Creek facility including the possible need for installation of a closed cycle cooling system.

Thank you for writing and sharing your concerns about the current and future operation of Oyster Creek. Be assured that both the Governor and the Commissioner carefully consider all comments raised by members of the public.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jill Lipoti".

Jill Lipoti, Ph.D.
Director