



2071414
BNE

State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

JON S. CORZINE
Governor

LISA P. JACKSON
Commissioner

Division of Environmental Safety and Health
P.O. Box 424
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0424
Phone: (609) 633-7964
Fax: (609) 777-1330

January 2, 2008

Mr. Russell W. Goyette
7 Strathmere Street
Waretown, New Jersey 08758

Dear Mr. Goyette:

Commissioner Lisa P. Jackson has asked me to respond on her behalf to your correspondence to Governor Jon S. Corzine of December 14, 2007 regarding your concerns on the continued operation of the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station and your suggestion to dam the Delaware River to produce hydroelectric power.

As you are aware, the NRC has sole regulatory control over the Oyster Creek operating license and the pending 20 year license renewal application. Throughout the ongoing 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 has filed and appealed contentions to the NRC related to Oyster Creek's license renewal submittal.

Specifically, New Jersey is concerned about the vulnerability of the Oyster Creek spent fuel pool to a terrorist attack using a commercial aircraft. New Jersey has filed a contention to the NRC requesting that this issue be evaluated as part of Oyster Creek's license renewal application. The NRC has rejected this request and New Jersey has appealed this decision which is now filed with the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit in Philadelphia. Regardless of the outcome of these legal actions, New Jersey intends to be vigilant and press for action to resolve this major security concern at Oyster Creek.

Your suggestion to replace Oyster Creek's electrical generation by damming the Delaware River to build a hydroelectric power plant would be a complicated endeavor with numerous environmental, economic and logistical challenges. However, we are in agreement that alternative, environmental friendly, methods of electrical generation must be part of the power supply mix available to the residents of New Jersey and the Governor actively supports this goal.

Thank you for writing and sharing your concerns about the current and future operation of Oyster Creek and for providing your suggestions for alternative electrical generation. Be assured that both the Governor and the Commissioner carefully consider all comments raised by members of the public and share in your determination that Oyster Creek should be allowed to operate only if all safety and environmental requirements are vigorously maintained.

Sincerely yours,

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

Jill Lipoti, Ph.D.
Director