

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Water Quality
Bureau of Point Source Permitting Region 1

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) proposes to renew the New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NJPDES) Discharge to Surface Water (DSW) Permit NJ0005550 in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:14A-1 et seq., and by authority of the Water Pollution Control Act at N.J.S.A. 58:10A-1 et seq., for the following discharge:

<u>Applicant or Permittee</u>	<u>Facility</u>
Amergen LLC P.O. Box 388 – Oyster Creek Generating Station Forked River, NJ 08731-0388	Oyster Creek Generating Station RT 9 South Forked River, Ocean County, NJ

The Oyster Creek Generating Station (Station) is an existing nuclear fueled electric generating station. The Station is located between the South Branch of the Forked River and Oyster Creek, two tributaries of Barnegat Bay. This draft permit renewal proposes to authorize the intake of waters from Forked River as well as the discharge of wastewater through seven outfalls to both Forked River and Oyster Creek. The Station withdraws approximately 596 million gallons per day (MGD) of water from an intake canal that leads from the Forked River, uses this water as non-contact cooling water, then discharges these waters into a discharge canal which leads to Oyster Creek, classified as SE-1 waters. The plant also withdraws approximately 732 MGD of water from the intake canal and discharges it directly into the discharge canal (without added heat) for the purpose of diluting the thermal discharge from the non-contact cooling water. This permit also serves to authorize the discharge of miscellaneous non-contact cooling water, process wastewater, intake screen washwater and stormwater in minimal amounts through five other outfalls.

This draft permit renewal incorporates NJDEP's determination with respect to the permittee's request for a thermal variance from surface water quality standards (SWQS) for heat and temperature pursuant to Section 316(a) of the Federal Clean Water Act. Further, this draft renewal permit incorporates NJDEP's determination pursuant to Section 316(b) of the Clean Water Act regarding the best technology available for the cooling water intake structure and implements the newly effective Federal regulations for Phase II facilities. This permit contains a compliance schedule to implement Section 316(b) requirements.

Modification provisions as cited in the permit may be initiated in accordance with the provisions set forth in Part IV and upon written notification from the Department.

A draft NJPDES permit renewal has been prepared for this facility based on the administrative record filed at the NJDEP, 401 East State Street, Trenton, New Jersey 08625. Copies of the draft document are obtainable, for a nominal charge, and the administrative record is available for inspection by appointment only, Monday through Friday. If you are interested in scheduling an appointment or requesting specific information regarding the draft document, contact Susan Rosenwinkel of the Bureau of Point Source Permitting at (609) 292-4860.

Written comments on the draft document must be submitted in writing to Howard B. Tompkins Chief, or Attention: Comments on Public Notice NJ0005550, Bureau of Point Source Permitting Region 1, P.O. Box 029, Trenton, NJ 08625 by September 6, 2005. All persons, including the applicant, who believe that any condition of this draft document is inappropriate or that the Department's decision to issue this draft document is inappropriate, must raise all reasonable arguments and factual grounds supporting their position, including all supporting materials, during the public comment period.

NJDEP will also hold a non-adversarial public hearing to solicit public comment on the draft permit on Monday, August 29, 2005 from 1 to 4 PM and from 7 PM to end of testimony (or 9 PM) at:

Lacey Township Municipal Building
818 Lacey Road
Lacey Township, Ocean County, NJ

The NJDEP will respond to all significant and timely comments upon issuance of the final document. The permittee and each person who has submitted written comments will receive notice of the Department's permit decision.