



**Powering Our Community
for Today and Tomorrow**

Oyster Creek Generating Station Plant Improvements & Upgrades Fact Sheet

- Oyster Creek has operated safely for 40 years and has more experience in safe operations than any other nuclear plant in the nation. Over the years, the station has undergone extensive upgrades and maintenance, and the systems and components are routinely tested and inspected to ensure continued safe and reliable operation and performance.
- Oyster Creek has invested over \$1.3 billion in capital improvements since operation began.
- All nuclear energy plants are subject to a regular and rigorous program of U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) oversight, inspection, preventive and corrective maintenance, equipment replacement, and extensive equipment testing. These programs ensure that plant equipment continues to meet safety standards, no matter how long the plant has been operating.
- The station inspects safety equipment at least once every 10 years. However, most of this equipment is inspected on a more frequent basis. Each of these inspections includes all critical welds on Reactor System Components and Safety Systems. The components in these systems are routinely tested for functionality and performance. Problems found are promptly repaired and corrected.
- In 2009, Exelon Nuclear invested \$31.5 million in capital improvements at Oyster Creek.

Since the purchase of the plant in August 2000, some major upgrades include:

- \$8.6 million to construct a demineralized water storage tank which ensures clean water is used as a primary make-up source to the isolation condensers. This is a new make-up source of water used in place of water that may contain tritium.
- \$35 million to replace the plant's two main power transformers. Transformers increase the voltage of the electricity that the plant generate before it is sent to the power grid.
- \$14 million to replace and refurbish low-pressure turbine rotors. These upgrades were designed to remove industry-identified causes of potential failure.
- \$13 million on a new condensate pre-filter system that uses a hollow fiber filter to reduce iron in the reactor coolant systems.
- \$4.1 million for safety system cooling water-piping upgrades to repair pipes identified through periodic inspections.
- \$5 million to add noble metals chemistry to reactor coolant. This chemical treatment inhibits corrosion and metal cracking of the primary plant, keeping the reactor safe and allowing it to run longer.