

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

THE POWER AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

DOCKET NO. 50-286

INDIAN POINT NUCLEAR GENERATING UNIT NO. 3

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF

NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is considering issuance of an amendment to the Technical Specifications for Facility Operating License No. DPR-64, issued to the Power Authority of the State of New York (the licensee), for operation of the Indian Point Nuclear Generating Unit No. 3, located in Westchester County, New York.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of the Proposed Action:

The proposed action would implement the Radiological Effluent Technical Specifications guidance of Generic Letter (GL) 89-01 and make changes that are necessary to implement the revised 10 CFR Part 20.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application for amendment dated February 19, 1998, as supplemented by letter dated July 28, 1999.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed amendment is needed to allow the licensee to implement the programmatic controls of GL 89-01, to implement the revised 10 CFR Part 20, to make editorial changes to the Radioactive Effluent Release Report in accordance with 10 CFR 50.36a, and to allow an

annual submittal for the Radioactive Effluent Release Report.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The NRC has completed its evaluation of the proposed action and concludes that there are no adverse environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

The proposed action will not significantly increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types of any effluents that may be released off site, and there is no significant increase in occupational or public radiation exposure; therefore, there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed action does not involve any historic sites. It does not affect nonradiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Accordingly, the NRC concludes that there are no significant environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action:

As an alternative to the proposed action, the staff considered denial of the proposed action (i.e., the "no-action" alternative). Denial of the application would result in no change in current environmental impacts. The environmental impacts of the proposed action and the alternative action are similar.

Alternative Use of Resources:

This action does not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement for the Indian Point Nuclear Generating Unit No. 3.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

In accordance with its stated policy, on November 1, 1999, the staff consulted with the New

York State official, Jack Spath, of the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comments.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

On the basis of the environmental assessment, the NRC concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, the NRC has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed action.

For further details with respect to the proposed action, see the licensee's letter dated February 19, 1998, as supplemented by letter dated July 28, 1999, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, The Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC. Publically available records will be accessible electronically from the ADAMS Public Library component on the NRC Web site, <http://www.nrc.gov> (the Electronic Reading Room).

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 29th day of December 1999.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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