



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

SUPPORTING AMENDMENT NO. 12 TO FACILITY LICENSE NO. DPR-50

METROPOLITAN EDISON COMPANY

JERSEY CENTRAL POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY

PENNSYLVANIA ELECTRIC COMPANY

THREE MILE ISLAND NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 1

DOCKET NO. 50-289

INTRODUCTION

By letter dated November 17, 1975 Metropolitan Edison Company (MetEd) proposed changes to the Technical Specifications appended to Facility Operating License No. DPR-50 for the Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit 1 (TMI-1). The proposed changes involved modifications to clarify the Technical Specifications regarding the reactor system pressure safety limits. Slight wording changes to the November 17, 1975 submittal have been discussed with MetEd and MetEd has agreed with these changes.

DISCUSSION

The Technical Specifications for TMI-1 include safety limits that place a limit on the reactor coolant system pressure (2750 psig) and further restricts the pressurizer safety valves to setpoints in accordance with the ASME Boiler and Pressurizer Vessel Code. MetEd has requested that the specification regarding safety valve setpoints be deleted as a safety limit and be relocated in the Technical Specifications to be included as a limiting condition for operation. MetEd asserts that the only safety limit (10 CFR 50.36 - limits upon important process variables which are found to be necessary to reasonably protect the integrity of certain of the physical barriers which guard against the uncontrolled release of radioactivity) necessary for the reactor coolant pressure is the maximum pressure (2750 psig). The requirement for the safety

valve settings is to ensure that the appropriate safety limit (maximum pressure) is not exceeded, and restrictions such as the safety valve settings should appropriately be included as a limiting condition of operation. MetEd proposes no changes in any of the system safety settings or manner of operation.

#### EVALUATION

We concur with MetEd's contention that the only safety limit for the reactor coolant system pressure is the maximum allowable pressure. The approach proposed by MetEd of having the maximum allowable reactor pressure as a safety limit with safety valve settings included as a limiting condition of operation is the approach adopted in the Standard Technical Specifications. This proposed change includes no modifications to the system safety settings or the manner of operation. We conclude that this Technical Specification amendment is acceptable.

We have determined that the amendment does not authorize a change in effluent types or total amounts nor an increase in power level and will not result in any significant environmental impact. Having made this determination, we have further concluded that the amendment involves an action which is insignificant from the standpoint of environmental impact and, pursuant to 10 CFR §31.5(d)(4), that an environmental statement, negative declaration, or environmental impact appraisal need not be prepared in connection with the issuance of this amendment.

#### CONCLUSION

We have concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) because the change does not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of accidents previously considered and does not involve a significant decrease in a safety margin, the change does not involve a significant hazards consideration, (2) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, and (3) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations and the issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Date:  
February 17, 1976