

December 1, 1988

Docket Nos. 50-334
and 50-412

Mr. J. D. Sieber, Vice President
Nuclear Group
Duquesne Light Company
Post Office Box 4
Shippingport, Pennsylvania 15077

Dear Mr. Sieber:

SUBJECT: BEAVER VALLEY POWER STATION-ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
(TACS 68634 AND 68635)

Enclosed is a copy of the Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact which relates to your submittal dated June 22, 1988 requesting license amendments to exclude all containment isolation weight- and spring-loaded check valves not subject to Type-C testing from the lift test requirements of Specification 4.6.3.1.

The Environmental Assessment is being forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

Signed by

Peter S. Tam, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate I-4
Division of Reactor Projects I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

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Mr. J. Sieber
Duquesne Light Company

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Beaver Valley Power Station
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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONDUQUESNE LIGHT COMPANYOHIO EDISON COMPANYTHE CLEVELAND ELECTRIC ILLUMINATING COMPANYTHE TOLEDO EDISON COMPANYPENNSYLVANIA POWER COMPANYDOCKET NOS. 50-334 AND 50-412ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OFNO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of amendments to Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-66 and NPF-73 issued to Duquesne Light Company, et. al. (the licensee), for operation of the Beaver Valley Power Station, Units 1 and 2, located in Beaver County, Pennsylvania.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTIdentification of Proposed Action:

The proposed amendments would exclude all containment isolation spring- and weight-loaded check valves not subject to Type-C testing from the lift test requirements of Specification 4.6.3.1. Other tests currently specified by regulation and the Technical Specifications (TS) are not affected by these amendments.

The proposed amendments are in accordance with Duquesne Light Company's application dated June 22, 1988.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed changes to the TS are needed since the lift tests can be shown to be unnecessary for the valves involved. Performing unnecessary tests only increases resource expenditures and increases occupational radiological exposure for no gain in safety.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed revisions to Technical Specifications. The proposed revisions would only eliminate certain tests for these check valves, and would have no other effect on plant design or operation. Therefore, the proposed changes do not increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types of any effluents that may be released offsite, and there is no significant increase in the allowable individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that these proposed actions would result in no significant radiological environmental impact.

With regard to potential non-radiological impacts, the proposed changes to the TS involve the containment system which is located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. They do not affect non-radiological plant effluents and have no other environmental impacts. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant non-radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed amendments.

The Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendments and Opportunity for Prior Hearing in connection with this action was published in the FEDERAL REGISTER on August 16, 1988 (53 FR 30880). No request for hearing or petition for leave to intervene was filed following this notice.

Alternative to the Proposed Action:

Since the Commission concluded that there are no significant environmental effects that would result from the proposed actions, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impacts need not be evaluated.

The principal alternative would be to deny the requested amendments. This would not reduce environmental impacts of plant operation and would only continue to require that unnecessary tests be performed.

Alternative Use of Resources:

These actions do not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement (FES) for the Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit 1, dated July 1973, and the FES for Unit 2 dated September 1985.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

The NRC staff reviewed the licensee's request and did not consult other agencies or persons.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The staff has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed amendments.

Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, we concluded that the proposed actions will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendments dated June 22, 1988, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, Washington, D.C. and at the B. F. Jones Memorial Library, 663 Franklin Avenue, Aliquippa, PA 15001.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this first day of December, 1988.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



John F. Stolz, Director
Project Directorate I-4
Division of Reactor Projects I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation