

May 15, 1997

Mr. J. E. Cross  
President-Generation Group  
Duquesne Light Company  
Post Office Box 4  
Shippingport, PA 15077

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT  
RELATED TO APPROVAL OF AN INDIRECT TRANSFER OF LICENSE, BEAVER  
VALLEY POWER STATION, UNIT NOS. 1 AND 2 (TAC NOS. M97439 AND M97440)

Dear Mr. Cross:

Enclosed is a copy of the Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact related to a request for approval under 10 CFR 50.80 of an indirect license transfer discussed in an application, dated December 13, 1996, from The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, et al. The proposal requests approval of an indirect transfer of the license resulting from the merger of Centerior Energy Corporation and Ohio Edison Company to form FirstEnergy Corporation.

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

Sincerely,

/s/

Donald S. Brinkman, Senior Project Manager  
Project Directorate I-2  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-334/412

Enclosure: Environmental Assessment

cc w/encl: See next page

**NRC FILE CENTER COPY**

**DISTRIBUTION:**  
Docket File  
PUBLIC  
PDI-2 r/f  
SVarga  
JStolz  
MO'Brien  
DBrinkman  
OGC, O-15B18  
ACRS, TWF  
PEselgroth, RGN-I  
TLiu

*see for 5/12/97*  
*NO w/changes*

OFFICE	PDI-2/PM <i>DAB</i>	PDI-2/PM <i>DAB</i>	PDI-2/LA <i>W. B. B.</i>	OGC <i>NO w/changes</i>	PDI-2/PM
NAME	TLiu: cw <i>for</i>	DBrinkman	MO'Brien	<i>G. Howl</i>	JStolz
DATE	<i>5/8/97</i>	<i>5/8/97</i>	<i>5/8/97</i>	<i>5/9/97</i>	<i>5/15/97</i>

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY  
DOCUMENT NAME: BV97439.EA

*DFOL*  
*a/r*

9705210260 970515  
PDR ADDOCK 05000334  
P PDR



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

May 15, 1997

Mr. J. E. Cross  
President-Generation Group  
Duquesne Light Company  
Post Office Box 4  
Shippingport, PA 15077

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT  
RELATED TO APPROVAL OF AN INDIRECT TRANSFER OF LICENSE, BEAVER  
VALLEY POWER STATION, UNIT NOS. 1 AND 2 (TAC NOS. M97439 AND M97440)

Dear Mr. Cross:

Enclosed is a copy of the Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact related to a request for approval under 10 CFR 50.80 of an indirect license transfer discussed in an application, dated December 13, 1996, from The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, et al. The proposal requests approval of an indirect transfer of the license resulting from the merger of Centerior Energy Corporation and Ohio Edison Company to form FirstEnergy Corporation.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donald S. Brinkman".

Donald S. Brinkman, Senior Project Manager  
Project Directorate I-2  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-334/412

Enclosure: Environmental Assessment

cc w/encl: See next page

J. E. Cross  
Duquesne Light Company

Beaver Valley Power Station  
Units 1 & 2

cc:

Jay E. Silberg, Esquire  
Shaw, Pittman, Potts & Trowbridge  
2300 N Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20037

Manager-Nuclear Safety Department (BV-A)  
Duquesne Light Company  
Beaver Valley Power Station  
PO Box 4  
Shippingport, PA 15077

Commissioner Roy M. Smith  
West Virginia Department of Labor  
Building 3, Room 319  
Capitol Complex  
Charleston, WVA 25305

Director, Utilities Department  
Public Utilities Commission  
180 East Broad Street  
Columbus, OH 43266-0573

Director, Pennsylvania Emergency  
Management Agency  
Post Office Box 3321  
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3321

Ohio EPA-DERR  
ATTN: Zack A. Clayton  
Post Office Box 1049  
Columbus, OH 43266-0149

Dr. Judith Johnsrud  
National Energy Committee  
Sierra Club  
433 Orlando Avenue  
State College, PA 16803

Bureau of Radiation Protection  
Pennsylvania Department of  
Environmental Resources  
ATTN: Michael P. Murphy  
Post Office Box 2063  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Mayor of the Borough of  
Shippingport  
Post Office Box 3  
Shippingport, PA 15077

Regional Administrator, Region I  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
475 Allendale Road  
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Resident Inspector  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Post Office Box 298  
Shippingport, PA 15077

Duquesne Light Company  
Beaver Valley Power Station  
PO Box 4  
Shippingport, PA 15077  
ATTN: S. C. Jain, Vice President  
Nuclear Services (BV-A)

Roy Denmark  
Environmental Review Coordinator  
841 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19107

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
THE CLEVELAND ELECTRIC ILLUMINATING COMPANY, ET AL.  
BEAVER VALLEY POWER STATION, UNIT NOS. 1 AND 2  
DOCKET NOS. 50-334 AND 50-412  
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF  
NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering approval, by issuance of an order under 10 CFR 50.80, of the indirect transfer of Facility Operating Licenses Nos. DPR-66 and NPF-73, to the extent they are held by The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company (CEI), Ohio Edison Company (OE), Toledo Edison Company (TE), and Pennsylvania Power Company (PP), for the Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit Nos. 1 and 2, located in Shippingport, Pennsylvania.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of the Proposed Action:

The proposed action would consent to the indirect transfer of the licenses with respect to a proposed merger between Centerior Energy Corporation and Ohio Edison Company. Centerior Energy Corporation is the parent holding company of CEI and TE, which hold licenses to possess interests in the Beaver Valley Power Station. OE and its subsidiary PP also hold licenses to possess interests in the Beaver Valley Power Station. The merger would result in the formation of a new holding company, FirstEnergy Corporation ("FirstEnergy"), of which CEI, TE, and OE would become subsidiaries. PP would continue to remain a subsidiary of OE, and Centerior Energy Corporation would cease to exist.

According to the application, the merger will have no affect on the operation of Beaver Valley Power Station or the provisions of its operating licenses. The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, The Toledo Edison Company, Ohio Edison Company, and Pennsylvania Power Company will remain licensees responsible for their possessory interests and related obligations. Duquesne Light Company, which is not involved in the merger, will continue to operate the Beaver Valley Power Station after the merger, as required by the operating licenses. No direct transfer of the licenses will result from the merger.

The proposed action is in accordance with The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, et. al's request for approval dated December 13, 1996, as supplemented by letter dated February 14, 1997.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed action is required to obtain the necessary consent to the indirect transfer of the licenses discussed above. According to the application, the underlying transaction is needed to create a stronger, more competitive enterprise that is expected to save over \$1 billion over the first 10 years of FirstEnergy operation.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The Commission has reviewed the proposed action and concludes that there will be no changes to the facility or its operation as a result of the proposed action. Accordingly, the NRC staff concludes that there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed action does not affect nonradiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Accordingly, the NRC staff concludes that there are no significant nonradiological 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. 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 Related to the Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit 1," dated July 1973, and the "Final Environmental Statement Related to the Operation of Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit 2," dated September 1986 in NUREG-1094.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

In accordance with its stated policy, on May 7, 1997, the staff consulted with the Pennsylvania State official, Mr. Michael P. Murphy of the Bureau of Radiation Protection, Department of Environmental Protection, regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comments.

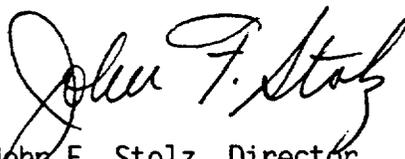
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

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

For further details with respect to the proposed action, see The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, et al.'s submittal dated December 13, 1996, as supplemented by letter dated February 14, 1997, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, The Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room located at the B. F. Jones Memorial Library, 663 Franklin Avenue, Aliquippa, PA 15001.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 15th day of May 1997.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



John F. Stolz, Director  
Project Directorate I-2  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/I1  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation