

4/8/86

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION

NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 2

DOCKET NO. 50-410

NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an exemption from the requirements of Appendix J to 10 CFR Part 50 to the Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (the applicant) for the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit 2, located at the applicant's site in Scriba, New York.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of Proposed Action:

The proposed action would provide an exemption from certain Commission regulations. The proposed exemption would relieve the applicant of conducting the Type A and the Type C test for certain valves. Pursuant to paragraph III of Appendix J to 10 CFR Part 50, a program consisting of a schedule for conducting Type A, B, and C tests shall be developed for leak testing the primary reactor containment and related systems and components penetrating primary containment pressure boundary. The applicant has requested exemptions from both Type A and Type C leak testing for the hydraulic control system for reactor recirculation flow control valves on the grounds that testing these lines would require the system to be disabled and drained of hydraulic fluid.

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The applicant's request for this exemption, and the basis therefor, are contained in its letters dated April 26, 1985 and September 3, 1985.

The Need for the Proposed Action

For the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit 2, Type A and Type C leak testing of the hydraulic control system for the reactor recirculation flow control valves would require the system to be disabled and drained of hydraulic fluid. Possible damage could occur to the system which is not normally exposed to air in establishing the test condition or restoring it to normal.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The exemption would permit the applicant to exclude the hydraulic control system for reactor recirculation from Type A and Type C tests of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix J. Although this system is not qualified to be operational in the post-LOCA containment environment, because it is protected against pipe whip, missiles, and jet forces, there is a reasonable basis for concluding that the system boundary will maintain its integrity and will not become a containment atmosphere leak path. Consequently, the exclusion of this system from Type A and C tests of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix J will not affect the containment integrity and does not affect the risk of facility accidents. Thus, post-accident radiological releases will not be greater than previously determined, nor does the proposed relief otherwise affect radiological plant effluents, nor result in any significant occupational exposure. Likewise, the relief does not affect non-radiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological or non-radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed exemption.

Alternative to the Proposed Action:

Because the Commission has concluded that there is no measurable environmental impact associated with the proposed exemption, any alternatives to the exemption, will have either no environmental impact or greater environmental impact.

The principal alternative would be to deny the requested exemption. Such action would not reduce the environmental impact of the operation of Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit 2 and would result in an increased potential of damage to the hydraulic control system for the reactor recirculation system flow control valves.

Alternative Use of Resources:

These actions do not involve the use of sources not previously considered in connection with the "Final Environmental Statement Related to Operation of Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit No. 2" dated May 1985.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

The NRC staff reviewed the licensee's requests that support the proposed exemption. The NRC staff did not consult other agencies or persons.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, we conclude that the proposed actions 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 exemption.

For further details with respect to the actions, see the applicant's requests for the exemption dated April 26, 1985 and September 3, 1985, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room,

1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. and at the Penfield Library, State
University College, Oswego, New York 13126.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland, this 8th day of April 1986.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Elinor G. Adensam

Elinor G. Adensam, Director
BWR Project Directorate No. 3
Division of BWR Licensing

March 10, 1986

Docket No. 50-412

Mr. J. J. Carey, Vice President
Nuclear Group
Duquesne Light Company
Post Office Box 4
Shippingport, PA 15077

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Dear Mr. Carey:

Enclosed is a copy of a "Notice of Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact" for your information. This notice relates to your application dated November 8, 1984, for an extension of the expiration date of Construction Permit No. CPPR-105 from December 31, 1984 to December 31, 1986, for Beaver Valley Unit 2.

The notice has been forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

Original signed by
L. S. Rubenstein

Lester S. Rubenstein, Director
PWR Project Directorate #2
Division of PWR Licensing-A
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
Notice

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

LA:PAD-7
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A PDR

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONDUQUESNE LIGHT COMPANYCLEVELAND ELECTRIC ILLUMINATING COMPANYOHIO EDISON COMPANYTOLEDO EDISON COMPANYDOCKET NO. 50-412NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OFNO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an extension of Construction Permit No. CPPR-105 to Duquesne Light Company, Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, Ohio Edison Company and Toledo Edison Company (the Permittees), for the Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit No. 2 located in Shippingport, Pennsylvania.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of Proposed Action: The extension would extend the expiration date of the Construction Permit CPPR-105 from December 31, 1984 to December 31, 1986.

The extension is responsive to Duquesne Light Company's application for extension dated November 8, 1984.

The Need for the Proposed Action: The proposed extension is needed because the completion date of Beaver Valley Unit 2 has been postponed for the following reasons:

- (1) reduced projected electric power need
- (2) increased regulatory requirements
- (3) the permittees' financial problems
- (4) additional time needed to fully test and evaluate portions of the project.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action: The proposed extension will not allow any work to be performed that is not already allowed by the existing construction permit. The probability of accidents has not been increased and post-accident radiological releases will not be greater than previously determined, nor does the proposed extension otherwise affect radiological plant effluents. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with this proposed extension.

With regard to potential non-radiological impacts, the proposed extension involves features located entirely within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. It does not affect non-radiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant non-radiological environmental impacts associated with this proposed extension.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action: As required by section 102(2)(E) of NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(E)), the staff has considered possible alternatives to the proposed action. The only possible alternative to the proposed action is not to renew the construction permit. This alternative would have led to a change in status and would result in a greater impact on Duquesne Light personnel and the environment (the project is currently more than 90% complete).

Therefore, there is no appropriate alternative to the proposed action.

Alternative Use of Resources: This action involves no use of resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement (construction permit and operating license) for the Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit No. 2.

Agencies and Persons Consulted: The NRC staff reviewed the permittees' request and did not consult other agencies or persons.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

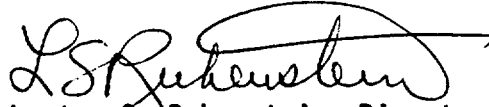
The Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed extension.

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

For further details with respect to this action, see the request for the extension dated November 8, 1984, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., and at the B. F. Jones Memorial Library, 663 Franklin Avenue, Aliquippa, Pennsylvania 15001.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland this 6th day of March, 1986.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "L. S. Rubenstein", with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Lester S. Rubenstein, Director
PWR Project Directorate #2
Division of PWR Licensing-A