

March 9, 1989

Docket No. 50-318

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Mr. G. C. Creel
Vice President-Nuclear Energy
Baltimore Gas and Electric Company
Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant
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LTripp, RI
NRC PDR
Local PDR
BBoger
SMcNeil
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BGrimes
GPA/PA

Dear Mr. Creel:

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
RELATING TO A SCHEDULAR EXTENSION FOR TYPES B AND C CONTAINMENT
LOCAL LEAK RATE TESTS (TAC NO. 71589)

Enclosed is a copy of an Environmental Assessment and Finding of No
Significant Impact which relates to your December 14 and 21, 1988
applications, as supplemented on February 17, 1989, concerning an exemption
from the requirements of Sections III.D.2(a) and III.D.3 of Appendix J to 10
CFR Part 50 and a temporary amendment of Technical Specification 3/4.6.1,
"Containment Systems," to permit a schedular extension of up to four weeks
(28 days), beyond the maximum specified retest interval of two years for Types
B and C containment local leak rate tests.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Scott Alexander McNeil, Project Manager
Project Directorate I-1
Division of Reactor Projects I/II

Enclosure:
Environmental Assessment

cc: See next page

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OFC	:PDI-1	:PDI-1	:PDI-1	:OGC			
NAME	:CVogan	:SMcNeil	:RCapra	:S H Lewis			
DATE	:3/8/89	:3/8/89	:3/8/89	:3/9/89			

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Mr. G. C. Creel
Baltimore Gas & Electric Company

Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant

cc:

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Calvert County Board of
Commissioners
Prince Frederick, Maryland 20768

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Energy Administration, Power Plant
Siting Program
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Annapolis, Maryland 21204

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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
BALTIMORE GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
CALVERT CLIFFS NUCLEAR POWER PLANT, UNIT NO. 2
DOCKET NO. 50-318
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of a one-time exemption from the requirements of Sections III.D.2(a) and III.D.3 of 10 CFR Part 50 and a temporary amendment to Unit 2 Technical Specification (TS) 3/4.6.1, "Containment Systems," to Facility Operating License No. DPR-69 issued to the Baltimore Gas and Electric Company (the licensee) for operation of the Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Unit No. 2, located in Calvert County, Maryland. The proposed temporary amendment and one-time exemption, submitted via the applications dated December 14 and 21, 1988, respectively, as supplemented on February 17, 1989, would provide up to a four week (28 days) extension to the maximum permissible retest interval of two years for Types B and C containment local leak rate tests (LLRTs).

NEED FOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The Commission has found that the proposed exemption and amendment will not result in any additional significant environmental impact and has, therefore, determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of the Proposed Amendment and Exemption:

Currently, Section III.D.2(a) and III.D.3 of Appendix J to 10 CFR Part 50 and TS Surveillance Requirement 4.6.1.2.d require Types B and C LLRTs to be performed at intervals no greater than two years (24 months). The licensee

has requested a one-time exemption from Sections III.D.2(a) and III.D.3 of Appendix J and a temporary amendment of TS 4.6.1.2.d to provide a retest schedule extension, for Types B and C LLRTs, of up to four weeks (28 days) beyond the maximum two year interval. The proposed one-time exemption and temporary TS amendment are applicable to Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant Unit 2 only, and would become effective at 11:59 p.m. on March 16, 1989 and expire at 11:59 p.m. on April 13, 1989.

NEED FOR THE PROPOSED ACTIONS:

During the previous Unit 2 refueling outage, the LLRT program started at a date apparently too early to support the full Cycle 8 operating cycle, with the first LLRT completed on March 16, 1987.

These actions are requested to permit Calvert Cliffs Unit 2 to complete its full Cycle 8 operating cycle rather than being forced to shutdown early on March 16, 1989 due to coming to the end of its maximum permitted Types B and C LLRT 2-year retest interval. Cycle 8 was the first 24-month operating cycle at Calvert Cliffs Unit 2.

Alternatives to the Proposed Actions:

Since we have concluded that the environmental effects of the proposed action are negligible, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impacts need not be evaluated.

The principal alternative would be to deny the requested action. This would not significantly reduce the environmental impacts of plant operation but would result in a lower burnup of the fuel to be discharged from the Unit 2 core following Cycle 8 resulting in a higher concentration of U-235 in the discharged fuel. Consequently, the radioactive life of the discharged fuel

would be longer than if it had been more fully burned, thus necessitating longer storage in a radioactive waste storage facility, and also, less economical use would have been made of the U-235 contained in the discharged fuel which would result in the utilization of additional natural resources to make up for the electrical energy output capacity lost by not burning the fuel more fully.

Alternative Use of Resources:

This action does not involve the use of resources not previously considered by the Commission in the "Final Environmental Statement Relating to Operation of Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Units 1 and 2" dated April 1973.

Environmental Impact of the Proposed Actions:

The proposed actions would result in up to a 28 day extension to the 631 day interval allowed between performances of successive LLRTs. The historical performance of the Calvert Cliffs Unit 2 containment structure and a review of all Unit 2 Types B and C LLRT failures indicates that the integrity of the Unit 2 containment would not be significantly affected by this one-time schedular extension of approximately 4% of the allowed surveillance interval. Furthermore, the likelihood of an event requiring containment isolation and integrity, principally a loss of coolant accident (LOCA), is very small during this short, one-time surveillance interval extension period.

For any significant increase in radiological environmental impact to result from this retest interval extension, a significant degradation in containment integrity subsequently followed by a LOCA, or another event

requiring containment isolation, would both be required to occur during the 28 day interval extension. As the likelihood of each individual occurrence during the extension is not significant, the probability of their happening in series during the interval extension is even smaller. On this basis, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed exemption and TS amendment.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed actions involve features located entirely within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. It does not affect nonradiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed exemption or TS amendment.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

None

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Based on the aforementioned environmental assessment, the Commission has determined that the proposed exemption or amendment will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

For further details with respect to this action see: (1) the applications for license amendment and exemption dated December 14 and 21, 1988, and (2) the licensee's supplemental letter dated February 17, 1989. These documents are

available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, DC, and at the Calvert County Library, Prince Frederick, Maryland.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this day of .

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Robert A. Capra, Director
Project Directorate I-1
Division of Reactor Projects I/II

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- E. Jordan-MNBB-3302
- B. Grimes-9-A-2
- ACRS (10)-P-315
- GPA/PA-17-F-2

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NAME	:CVogan	:SMcNeil	:S.H.Lewis	:RCapra	:	:	:
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Mr. G. C. Creel
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Prince Frederick, Maryland 20768

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Resident Inspector
c/o U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
P. O. Box 437
Lusby, Maryland 20657

Department of Natural Resources
Energy Administration, Power Plant
Siting Program
ATTN: Mr. T. Magette
Tawes State Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21204

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

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Robert A. Capra, Director
Project Directorate I-1
Division of Reactor Projects I/II

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