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PENNSYLVANIA POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY

ALLEGHENY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION UNITS 1 AND 2

DOCKET NOS. 50-387 AND 50-388

ORDER EXTENDING CONSTRUCTION COMPLETION DATE

Pennsylvania Power and Light Company and Allegheny Electric Cooperative, Inc. are the holders of Construction Permit Nos. CPPR-101 and CPPR-102, issued by the Atomic Energy Commission* on November 2, 1973 for construction of the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station. This facility is presently under construction at a site in Northeastern Pennsylvania in the Salem Township, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania.

On January 23, 1981, the applicants requested an extension of the latest completion dates because construction has been delayed by the following events:

1. Changes in the scope of the project including increases in the amount of material and engineering required resulting in part from the accident at Three Mile Island Unit 2 and subsequent regulatory actions.
2. Construction delays and lower than estimated productivity which resulted in delays in installation of material and equipment and delays in completion of systems required to support plant testing.
3. Changes in plant design.
4. Delays in delivery of equipment and material.
5. Shortages of certain highly skilled workers and similar construction related factors.

*Effective January 19, 1975, the Atomic Energy Commission became the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and permits in effect on that day were continued under the authority of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

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This action involves no significant hazards consideration; good cause has been shown for the delays; and the requested extension is for a reasonable period, the bases for which are set forth in the staff's evaluation of the request for extension.

The Commission has determined that this action will not result in any significant environmental impact and, pursuant to 10 CFR 51.5(d)(4), an environmental impact statement, or negative declaration and environmental impact appraisal, need not be prepared in connection with this action.

The NRC staff evaluation of the request for extension of the construction permit is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20555 and at the Osterhout Free Library, 71 South Franklin Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania 18701.

IT IS HEREBY-ORDERED THAT the latest completion date for Construction Permit No. CPPR-101 is extended from March 1, 1981 to December 31, 1982 and the latest completion date for Construction Permit No. CPPP-102 is extended from September 1, 1982 to March 31, 1984.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Original signed by
Darrell G. Eisenhut

Darrell G. Eisenhut, Director
Division of Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Date of Issuance: FEB 28 1981

no legal objections

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EVALUATION OF A REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF
PROVISIONAL CONSTRUCTION PERMIT NOS. CPPR-101 AND CPPR-102
SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION
DOCKET NOS. 50-387 AND 50-388

Introduction

A construction permit was issued to Pennsylvania Power and Light Company and Allegheny Electric Cooperative, Inc. (applicants) on November 2, 1973 authorizing construction of the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station (facility) in Salem Township, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. Construction Permit CPPR-101 specified March 1, 1981 as the latest date for completion of construction of Unit 1. Construction Permit CPPR-102 specified September 1, 1982 as the latest date for completion of construction for Unit 2.

The applicants requested that these dates be extended to December 31, 1982 for Unit 1 and March 31, 1984 for Unit 2. The applicants' request for construction permit extension is contained in their letter of January 23, 1981.

Discussion

The applicants' letter of January 23, 1981, stated that the delay in the completion of construction of the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Units 1 and 2 is due to the following factors:

- a. Changes in the scope of the project including increases in the amount of material and engineering required resulting in part from the accident at Three Mile Island Unit 2 and subsequent regulatory actions.
- b. Construction delays and lower than estimated productivity which resulted in delays in installation of material and equipment and delays in completion of systems to support plant testing.
- c. Changes in plant design
- d. Delays in delivery of equipment and material
- e. Shortages of certain highly skilled workers and similar construction related factors

Based on our review of the applicants' request, we find that the above factors were beyond the applicants' control and constitute good cause for the delay in completion of construction. The applicants have maintained a construction effort at the Susquehanna site and have revised the design of the facility to meet changing regulatory requirements. Based on our evaluation of the causes for the delay, we have determined that the requested extension is for a reasonable period of time.

FEB 28 1981

As a result of our review of the Susquehanna Final Safety Analysis Report to date and considering the nature of the delays, we have identified no significant hazards considerations in connection with the extension of the construction completion date. In addition, we find that the only change proposed by the applicants to the existing construction permits is an extension of the latest completion dates. This extension will not allow any work to be performed involving new safety information of a type not considered by a previous Commission safety review of the facility and that is not already allowed by the existing construction permit. Therefore, we find that (1) this action does not involve a significant hazards consideration, (2) prior public notice of this action is not required, (3) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by extension of the construction completion date, and (4) good cause exists for issuance of an Order extending the completion dates.

Conclusions

Accordingly, issuance of an Order extending the latest completion dates for construction of the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station is reasonable and should be authorized. The latest completion date for Unit 1 should be extended to December 31, 1982 and the latest completion date for Unit 2 should be extended to March 31, 1984.