

May 2, 1997

Mr. Robert G. Byram
Senior Vice President-Nuclear
Pennsylvania Power and Light Company
2 North Ninth Street
Allentown, PA 18101

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
RELATED TO ISSUANCE OF EXEMPTION TO 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4), SUSQUEHANNA
STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2 (TAC NOS. M96717 AND M96718)

Dear Mr. Byram:

Enclosed is a copy of the Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact related to your application for exemption dated September 6, 1996. The proposed action would allow exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4) regarding the submission of revisions to the Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR) and safety evaluation summary reports for facility changes made under 10 CFR 50.59 for Susquehanna Steam Electric Station (SSES). Specifically, the exemption requests that Pennsylvania Power and Light Company be allowed to schedule updates to the SSES FSAR and submit safety evaluation summary reports based upon the refueling cycle frequency for Unit 2.

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

Sincerely,

/s/

Chester Poslusny, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate I-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-387 and 50-388

Enclosure: Environmental Assessment

cc w/encl: See next page

NRC FILE CENTER COPY

DISTRIBUTION: JStolz TLiu
Docket File CPoslusny
PUBLIC MO'Brien
PDI-2 r/f OGC, O-15B18
SVarga ACRS, TWF
JZwolinski WPasciak, RI

concur as revised

OFFICE	PDI-2/PM	PDI-2/LA ^{all for 2/197}	PDI-2/PM	PGEE/BO	OGC	PDI-2/D
NAME	TLiu:cw	MO'Brien	CPoslusny	DMatthews	JNull	JStolz
DATE	4/11/97	4/11/97	4/15/97	4/18/97	4/28/97	5/1/97

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY
DOCUMENT NAME: SU96717.EA

DFD 1/1



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

May 2, 1997

Mr. Robert G. Byram
Senior Vice President-Nuclear
Pennsylvania Power and Light Company
2 North Ninth Street
Allentown, PA 18101

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
RELATED TO ISSUANCE OF EXEMPTION TO 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4), SUSQUEHANNA
STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2 (TAC NOS. M96717 AND M96718)

Dear Mr. Byram:

Enclosed is a copy of the Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact related to your application for exemption dated September 6, 1996. The proposed action would allow exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4) regarding the submission of revisions to the Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR) and safety evaluation summary reports for facility changes made under 10 CFR 50.59 for Susquehanna Steam Electric Station (SSES). Specifically, the exemption requests that Pennsylvania Power and Light Company be allowed to schedule updates to the SSES FSAR and submit safety evaluation summary reports based upon the refueling cycle frequency for Unit 2.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chester Poslusny".

Chester Poslusny, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate I-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-387 and 50-388

Enclosure: Environmental Assessment

cc w/encl: See next page

Mr. Robert G. Byram
Pennsylvania Power & Light Company

Susquehanna Steam Electric Station,
Units 1 & 2

cc:

Jay Silberg, Esq.
Shaw, Pittman, Potts & Trowbridge
2300 N Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037

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

Bryan A. Snapp, Esq.
Assistant Corporate Counsel
Pennsylvania Power & Light Company
2 North Ninth Street
Allentown, Pennsylvania 18101

Mr. George Kuczynski
Plant Manager
Susquehanna Steam Electric Station
Pennsylvania Power and Light Company
Box 467
Berwick, Pennsylvania 18603

Mr. J. M. Kenny
Licensing Group Supervisor
Pennsylvania Power & Light Company
2 North Ninth Street
Allentown, Pennsylvania 18101

Mr. Herbert D. Woodeshick
Special Office of the President
Pennsylvania Power and Light Company
Rural Route 1, Box 1797
Berwick, Pennsylvania 18603

Mr. K. Jenison
Senior Resident Inspector
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
P.O. Box 35
Berwick, Pennsylvania 18603-0035

George T. Jones
Vice President-Nuclear Operations
Pennsylvania Power and Light Company
2 North Ninth Street
Allentown, Pennsylvania 18101

Mr. William P. Dornsife, Director
Bureau of Radiation Protection
Pennsylvania Department of
Environmental Resources
P. O. Box 8469
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17105-8469

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

Mr. Jesse C. Tilton, III
Allegheny Elec. Cooperative, Inc.
212 Locust Street
P.O. Box 1266
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17108-1266

Chairman
Board of Supervisors
738 East Third Street
Berwick, PA 18603

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

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
PENNSYLVANIA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY
ALLEGHENY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
DOCKET NOS. 50-387 AND 50-388
SUSQUEHANNA STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF
NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an exemption to Facility Operating License Nos. NPF-14 and NPF-22, issued to Pennsylvania Power & Light Company (the licensee), for operation of the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Units 1 and 2, located in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, from the requirements of 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4).

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of the Proposed Action:

The proposed action would allow exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4) regarding the submission of revisions to the Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR) and safety evaluation summary reports for facility changes made under 10 CFR 50.59 for Susquehanna Steam Electric Station (SSES). Specifically, the exemption requests that Pennsylvania Power & Light Company be allowed to schedule updates to both units of the SSES FSAR and submit safety evaluation summary reports based upon the refueling cycle frequency for Unit 2. The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application for exemption dated September 6, 1996.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

It is required in 10 CFR 50.71 (e)(4) that licensees are to submit the updates to their FSAR within 6 months after each refueling outage provided that the interval between successive updates does not exceed 24 months. Since SSES Units 1 and 2 share a common FSAR, the licensee must update the same document within 6 months after a refueling outage for either unit. The proposed action would maintain the SSES FSAR current within 24 months of the last revision and would not exceed the 24-month interval for submission of the 10 CFR 50.59 design change report for either unit.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed action and concludes that the change will 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 there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed action does 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. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action:

Since the Commission has concluded there is no measurable environmental impact associated with the proposed action, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impact need not be evaluated. 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 for the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, dated June 1981.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

In accordance with its stated policy, on March 24, 1997, the staff consulted with the Pennsylvania State official, Mr. David Ney of the Bureau of Radiation Protection, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources, regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comments.

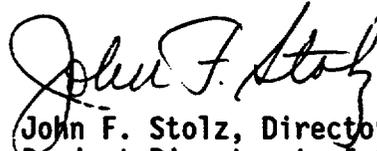
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

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 proposed action.

For further details with respect to the proposed action, see the licensee's letter dated September 6, 1996, which is 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 Osterhout Free Library, Reference Department, 71 South Franklin Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 2nd day of May 1997.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John F. Stolz".

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