

Mr. Charles H. Cruse
Vice President - Nuclear Energy
Baltimore Gas and Electric Company
Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant
1650 Calvert Cliffs Parkway
Lusby, MD 20657-4702

March 18, 1999

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OF EXEMPTION REQUEST RELATING TO
10 CFR PART 50, APPENDIX R, SECTION III.J, EMERGENCY LIGHTING -
CALVERT CLIFFS NUCLEAR POWER PLANT, UNIT NOS. 1 AND 2
(TAC NOS. M99791 AND M99792)

Dear Mr. Cruse:

Enclosed is a copy of the Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact related to your application dated October 6, 1997, as supplemented July 22, 1998.

You requested an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix R, Section III.J, Emergency lighting, to allow (1) the use of security lighting required by 10 CFR 73.55 powered by the diesel generator, for exterior lighting in lieu of 8-hour battery powered lighting; (2) the use of portable lights, powered by an 8-hour battery supply, for actions in high radiation areas, (3) the use of helmet lanterns inside of switchgear cabinets.

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

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Alexander W. Dromerick, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate I-1
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-317
and 50-318

Enclosure: Environmental Assessment

cc w/encl: See next page

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 18, 1999

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Alexander W. Dromerick", is positioned above the typed name.

Alexander W. Dromerick, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate I-1
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-317
and 50-318

Enclosure: Environmental Assessment

cc w/encl: See next page

Mr. Charles H. Cruse
Baltimore Gas & Electric Company

Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant

cc:

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BALTIMORE GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

DOCKET NOS. 50-317 AND 50-318

CALVERT CLIFFS NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

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 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix R, Section III.J, Emergency lighting, to Baltimore Gas and Electric Company (the licensee) for operation of the Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Unit Nos. 1 and 2, located in Calvert County, Maryland.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of the Proposed Action:

The proposed exemption would grant relief from the requirements of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix R, Section III.J, Emergency lighting, as follows:

- (1) security lighting, required by 10 CFR 73.55, powered by the diesel generator, would be used for exterior lighting in lieu of 8-hour battery powered emergency lighting units specified by Section III.J;
- (2) portable lights powered by an 8-hour battery supply, for actions in high radiation areas would be used in lieu of 8-hour battery powered emergency lighting units; and

- (3) helmet lanterns would be used inside of switchgear cabinets in lieu of 8-hour battery powered emergency lighting units.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application for exemption dated October 6, 1997, as supplemented by letter dated July 22, 1998.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The exemption is needed to reduce the hardships or costs associated with complying with Appendix R, Section III.J.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed action and concludes that the proposed action will not adversely affect safety.

The proposed action will not increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types of any effluents that may be released off site, and there is no significant increase in occupational or public radiation exposure. Therefore, there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

With regard to potential non-radiological impacts, the proposed action does not involve any historic sites. It does not affect non-radiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, there are no significant non-radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant 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 (i.e., the "no-action" alternative). 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 Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Unit Nos. 1 and 2.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

In accordance with its stated policy, on February 10, 1999, the staff consulted with the Maryland State official, Richard J. McLean of the Department of Natural Resources, regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comments.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

On the basis of 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 licensee's letter dated October 6, 1997, as supplemented by letter dated July 22, 1998, 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

Commission's Public Document Room, The Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW.,
Washington, DC, and at the local public document room located at the Calvert County Library,
Prince Frederick, Maryland.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 18th day of March 1999.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "S. Singh Bajwa", written over a horizontal line.

S. Singh Bajwa, Director
Project Directorate I-1
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation