



MAY 7 2001

SERIAL: HNP-01-076

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTENTION: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

SHEARON HARRIS NUCLEAR POWER PLANT
DOCKET NO. 50-400/LICENSE NO. NPF-63
SUPPLEMENT TO EXEMPTION REQUEST – OPERATOR REQUALIFICATION
PROGRAM CYCLE

Dear Sir or Madam:

By letter dated January 19, 2001, Carolina Power & Light Company submitted a request for a one time exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 55.59(a) to allow the comprehensive written examinations for the current Harris Nuclear Plant's (HNP) Operator Requalification Program cycle to be given in the first quarter of 2002 outside of the 24 month cycle. As a result of subsequent discussions with NRC staff, CP&L is providing this supplement to the exemption request.

HNP's current Operator Requalification Program cycle began January 1, 2000 and ends December 31, 2001. HNP is scheduled to be in an extended shutdown for refueling, steam generator replacement, and power uprate modifications during the end period of the current requalification cycle and when the full annual examination (comprehensive written examination and annual operating test) would need to be given. 10 CFR 55.11 allows the Commission to grant specific exemptions from the regulations. The purpose of this letter is to request a one time exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 55.59(a) that would allow the current requalification cycle to be extended to 27 months (ending March 31, 2002) allowing administration of the full annual examination to be given in the first quarter of 2002 and within the designated cycle. If the exemption is granted, the successive cycle will begin on April 1, 2002 and continue for a 24 month period.

Reason for the Exemption Request

CP&L requests this exemption for the following reasons:

- 10CFR 55.59(a) requires a comprehensive requalification written examination and an annual operating test within the 24 month operator requalification cycle.
- The current requalification cycle started in January 2000 and will be completed December 2001.

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- The full annual examination to be given at the end of the current cycle falls in a time frame when the HNP will be in an extended shutdown to perform refueling, steam generator replacement and power uprate modifications.
- Based on the training required for new site procedures, modification of the simulator to support outage modifications, training prior to the outage and the implementation of the extended outage, the ability to complete the full annual examination within the 24 month requalification cycle is not possible.
- Since the requested action would result in exceeding the requirements of 10 CFR 55.59(a), a one time exemption from the requirement is requested.

Basis for this Exemption Request

10 CFR 55.11 states that "The Commission may, upon application by an interested person, or upon its own initiative, grant such exemptions from the requirements of the regulations in this part as it determines are authorized by law and will not endanger life or property and are otherwise in the public interest." HNP is requesting a one time exemption that would extend the current requalification cycle to 27 months which is outside of the 24 month cycle required by 10 CFR 55.59(a). This exemption request deals only with extending the current requalification cycle, as such, the granting of the request would not endanger life or property nor would it be contrary to public interest. Granting of this exemption will not reduce the effectiveness of the current Operator Requalification Program for the HNP.

If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Mr. Andy Barbee at (919) 362-3313.

Sincerely,



R. J. Field
Manager, Regulatory Affairs
Harris Nuclear Plant

MGW

- c: Mr. J. B. Brady (NRC Senior Resident Inspector, HNP)
Mr. M. E. Ernstes (Chief, Operator Licensing and Human Performance Branch, Region II)
Mr. Rich Laufer (NRR Project Manager, HNP)
Mr. L. A. Reyes (NRC Regional Administrator, Region II)