

August 16, 2001

Mr. Oliver D. Kingsley, President
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Exelon Generation Company, LLC
1400 Opus Place, Suite 500
Downers Grove, IL 60515

SUBJECT: LASALLE COUNTY STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2 - ISSUANCE OF
AMENDMENTS (TAC NOS. MB1769 AND MB1770)

Dear Mr. Kingsley:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (Commission) has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 148 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-11 and Amendment No. 134 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-18 for the LaSalle County Station, Units 1 and 2, respectively. The amendments are in response to your application dated April 16, 2001.

The amendments change the reference in Technical Specification 5.5.6, "Inservice Inspection Program for Post Tensioning Tendons."

A copy of the Safety Evaluation is also enclosed. The Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's biweekly Federal Register notice.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Jon B. Hopkins, Senior Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate III
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-373, 50-374

Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. 148 to NPF-11
2. Amendment No. 134 to NPF-18
3. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

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LaSalle County Station
Units 1 and 2

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Units 1 and 2

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Jon B. Hopkins, Senior Project Manager, Section 2
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Docket Nos. 50-373, 50-374

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3. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

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*See previous concurrence

OFFICE	PM:LPD3*	E	LA:LPD3*	E	OGC*	NLO	SC:LPDIII/2	E
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OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

EXELON GENERATION COMPANY, LLC

DOCKET NO. 50-373

LASALLE COUNTY STATION, UNIT 1

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 148
License No. NPF-11

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
 - A. The application for amendment filed by the Exelon Generation Company, LLC (the licensee), dated April 16, 2001, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
 - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the regulations of the Commission;
 - C. There is reasonable assurance (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
 - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
 - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.
2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the enclosure to this license amendment and paragraph 2.C.(2) of the Facility Operating License No. NPF-11 is hereby amended to read as follows:

(2) Technical Specifications and Environmental Protection Plan

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 148 , and the Environmental Protection Plan contained in Appendix B, are hereby incorporated in the license. The licensee shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications and the Environmental Protection Plan.

3. This license amendment is effective as of the date of its issuance and shall be implemented within 60 days.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

/RA/

Anthony J. Mendiola, Chief, Section 2
Project Directorate III
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment:
Changes to the Technical
Specifications

Date of Issuance: August 16, 2001

EXELON GENERATION COMPANY, LLC

DOCKET NO. 50-374

LASALLE COUNTY STATION, UNIT 2

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 134
License No. NPF-18

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
 - A. The application for amendment filed by the Exelon Generation Company, LLC (the licensee), dated April 16, 2001, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
 - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the regulations of the Commission;
 - C. There is reasonable assurance (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
 - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
 - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.
2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the enclosure to this license amendment and paragraph 2.C.(2) of the Facility Operating License No. NPF-18 is hereby amended to read as follows:

(2) Technical Specifications and Environmental Protection Plan

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 134, and the Environmental Protection Plan contained in Appendix B, are hereby incorporated in the license. The licensee shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications and the Environmental Protection Plan.

3. This license amendment is effective as of the date of its issuance and shall be implemented within 60 days.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

/RA/

Anthony J. Mendiola, Chief, Section 2
Project Directorate III
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment:
Changes to the Technical
Specifications

Date of Issuance: August 16, 2001

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NOS. 148 AND 134

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NOS. NPF-11 AND NPF-18

DOCKET NOS. 50-373 AND 50-374

Revise the Appendix A Technical Specifications by removing the pages identified below and inserting the attached pages. The revised pages are identified by amendment number and contain a vertical line indicating the area of change.

REMOVE

5.5-5

INSERT

5.5-5

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 148 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-11
AND AMENDMENT NO. 134 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-18
EXELON GENERATION COMPANY, LLC
LASALLE COUNTY STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2
DOCKET NOS. 50-373 AND 50-374

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By a letter dated April 16, 2001, Exelon Generation Company, LLC (Exelon, the licensee) requested approval to amend its operating licenses NPF-11 and NPF-18 for LaSalle County Station, Units 1 and 2, by revising the plant's Technical Specifications (TS). The proposed amendments will revise the reference in TS Section 5.5.6, "Inservice Inspection Program for Post Tensioning Tendons," from Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.35, Revision 3 to Subsection IWL of Section XI of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code. The proposal also changes Surveillance Requirements (SR) 3.0.2, 3.6.1.1.2, and 3.6.1.1.3 for consistency.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff previously approved a TS change allowing the licensee to establish tendon inspection frequency by considering the two containments in Units 1 and 2 as "twin containments" (Ref. 1). In order to implement the proposed TS change which would correspond to the previously-approved TS change, relief request CR-32 to use an alternative to the requirements of the ASME Code, Section XI, Subsection IWL that is incorporated by reference in 10 CFR 50.55a was also included in the submittal of April 16, 2001. The relief request was approved by letter dated August 16, 2001.

2.0 BACKGROUND

Proposed Changes

The licensee proposes to change the existing requirements in Section 5.5.6 in the "Programs and Manuals" Section of the TS as follows (underlining added for emphasis):

5.5.6 Inservice Inspection Program for Post Tensioning Tendons (Existing)

This program provides controls for monitoring any tendon degradation in pre-stressed concrete containments, including effectiveness of its corrosion protection medium, to ensure containment structural integrity. The program shall include baseline measurements prior to initial operations. The Tendon Surveillance Program, inspection frequencies, and acceptance criteria shall be in accordance with Regulatory Guide 1.35, Revision 3, 1989, except that the Unit 1 and Unit 2 primary containments shall be

treated as twin containments even though the initial structural integrity tests were not within 2 years of each other.

The provisions of SR 3.0.2 and 3.0.3 are applicable to the Tendon Surveillance Program inspection frequencies.

5.5.6 Inservice Inspection Program for Post Tensioning Tendons (Proposed)

This program provides controls for monitoring any tendon degradation in pre-stressed concrete containments, including effectiveness of its corrosion protection medium, to ensure containment structural integrity. The program shall include baseline measurements prior to initial operations. The Tendon Surveillance Program, inspection frequencies, and acceptance criteria shall be in accordance with Section XI, Subsection IWL of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code and applicable Addenda as required by 10 CFR 50.55a as amended by relief granted in accordance with 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3).

The provisions of SR 3.0.3 are applicable to the Tendon Surveillance Program inspection frequencies.

In addition to the above changes in Section 5.5.6 of “Programs and Manual” of the TS, the licensee proposes changes in SR 3.6.1.1.2 and in “REFERENCES” section of TS Bases 3.6.1.1. In both places, the changes consist of modifying the reference from RG 1.35 to 10 CFR 50.55a.

3.0 EVALUATION

10 CFR 50.55a(g)(5)(ii) requires, “If a revised inservice inspection program for a facility conflicts with the technical specification for the facility, the licensee shall apply to the Commission for amendment of the TS to conform the TS to the revised program.” Though most of the existing requirements of the TS are not in conflict with the inservice inspection (ISI) program formulated to comply with the 10 CFR 50.55a requirements, there are differences. The staff finds that this TS amendment request is consistent with 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(5)(ii). Therefore, changing the reference from RG 1.35 to 10 CFR 50.55a in the TS and the TS Bases is acceptable.

The additional TS change that the licensee is proposing is deletion of a reference to SR 3.0.2, which provides leeway in the time interval for surveillance (inspection) up to 1.25 times the specified inspection interval, from TS 5.5.6.

As stated above, the staff found acceptable relief request CR-32 related to the treatment of two units as “twin containments,” for the purpose of scheduling inspection interval for post-tensioning tendons in the two containments. IWL-2420(b) and (c) provides the requirements for the maximum allowable deferral in the inspection interval. SR 3.0.2 requirement conflicts with the code requirement. The staff finds the code inspection interval requirement acceptable, and therefore, the proposed deletion of SR 3.0.2 from Section 5.5.6 is acceptable.

4.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the Illinois State official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendments. The State official had no comments.

5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendments change a requirement with respect to the installation or use of a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20 and change surveillance requirements. The NRC staff has determined that the amendments involve no significant increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types, of any effluents that may be released offsite, and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The Commission has previously issued a proposed finding that the amendments involve no significant hazards consideration, and there has been no public comment on such finding (66 FR 31707). Accordingly, the amendments meet the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b), no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendments.

6.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendments will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

7.0 REFERENCE

1. Letter from A. Gody, Jr. (NRC) to D. Farrar (ComEd, now Exelon), "Issuance of Amendments 100 (Unit 1) and 84 (Unit 2), LaSalle County Station, June 3, 1994.

Principal Contributor: H. Ashar

Date: August 16, 2001