

September 1, 1989

Docket Nos. 50-369
50-370

Mr. H. B. Tucker, Vice President
Nuclear Production Department
Duke Power Company
422 South Church Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28242

Dear Mr. Tucker:

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
(TACS 73113 AND 73114)

Enclosed for your information is a copy of an "Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact" related to your May 11, 1989, application and June 14, 1989 supplement for amendments to the operating licenses for the McGuire Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2. The amendments would revise Technical Specifications related to the heating, ventilation and air conditioning system for the new Waste Solidification Building and associated changes. The notice has been forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

/s/

Darl S. Hood, Project Manager
Project Directorate II-3
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
Environmental Assessment

cc w/encl:
See next page

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[MCGUIRE EA 73114/4 WASTE BLDG]

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

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "ARL Hood". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "A" and "H".

Darl S. Hood, Project Manager
Project Directorate II-3
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
Environmental Assessment

cc w/encl:
See next page

Mr. H. B. Tucker
Duke Power Company

McGuire Nuclear Station

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONDUKE POWER COMPANYDOCKET NOS. 50-369 AND 50-370NOTICE OF ISSUANCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of amendments to Facility Operating License Nos. NPF-9 and NPF-17 issued to Duke Power Company (the licensee), for operation of the McGuire Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2, located in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTIdentification of Proposed Action:

A planned modification to the McGuire Nuclear Station will add new areas to the station for use in holding, processing and reduction of liquid and solid radwaste materials. As a result of the modification, a new Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) system will be added to provide ventilation services for the new area and some areas previously serviced by the Auxiliary Building Filtered Ventilation Exhaust (ABFVE) system. This will require a change to existing ABFVE system flowrates given in the Technical Specifications (TS) because the reduction in the area served by the ABFVE system will result in lower ABFVE system flowrates to the Unit 1 and 2 Vents. Presently, the flowrates listed in TS 4.7.7 are 54,000 CFM +/- 10% for Unit 1 and 43,000 CFM +/- 10% for Unit 2. Upon completion of the modification, these values will be reduced to 45,700 CFM +/- 10% for Unit 1 and 40,500 CFM +/- 10% for Unit 2.

The modification will also relocate an existing gaseous effluent release point, and relocate an existing radiation monitor (EMF 53). Relocating the release point requires a change to TS Figure 5.1-3 that identifies the location of the existing McGuire gaseous release points. A more legible copy of Figure 5.1-3 would also be substituted. Also, administrative changes to several TS tables are proposed to rename the "Contaminated Parts Warehouse Ventilation System" to the "Waste Handling Ventilation System."

The proposed amendments would change the McGuire TS consistent with the above planned modifications. The above proposed changes will affect TS 4.7.7, "Auxiliary Building Filtered Ventilation Exhaust System - Surveillance Requirements;" Table 3.3-13 (Item 8), "Radioactive Gaseous Effluent Monitoring Instrumentation - Contaminated Parts Warehouse Ventilation System;" Table 4.3-9 (Item 8), "Radioactive Gaseous Effluent Monitoring Instrumentation Surveillance Requirements - Contaminated Parts Warehouse Ventilation System;" Table 4.11-2 (Item 4b), "Radioactive Gaseous Waste Sampling and Analysis Program - Contaminated Parts Warehouse;" and Figure 5.1-3, "Site Boundary for Gaseous Effluents."

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The changes to the TS are needed to reflect station modifications to improve the handling and processing of radioactive waste and to provide improved housing and ventilation systems for waste handling and processing areas.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

A proposed modification to the facility will achieve further improvements in the processing, storage and reduction of solid and liquid contaminated materials to be disposed of as low-level radioactive waste and in the decontamination

of reusable materials. A new high-density waste shredder and compactor will reduce solid radwaste disposable volume and associated requirements for temporary holding area space. A new laundry dry cleaning system using a re-usable dry cleaning solvent will reduce waste water by replacing the existing laundry decontamination facility that uses conventional water wash machines. New decontamination equipment will replace existing equipment that uses aggressive cleaning chemicals that are not compatible with materials of construction or with the process media in the radwaste system. The new decontamination equipment will also be more effective in the removal of oil, grease, paint and adhesive residues from surfaces; and unlike existing equipment, can be used to decontaminate electrical equipment.

The equipment will be housed in a new addition to the north end of the Auxiliary Service Building. This new addition will also provide space for temporary radwaste storage, handling and shipping; and will provide additional space for health physics offices and the chemistry laboratory. The existing Waste Storage Building is being modified to be an enclosed structure adjoining the Auxiliary Service Building, with direct access provided between the two.

Enclosing the Waste Storage Building provides for the addition of an HVAC system to service the radwaste areas and new building areas. This will ensure that potential airborne contamination in these areas will be collected, monitored, filtered and exhausted 68 feet above grade level. The new release point is through a vent stack located 60 feet from the existing location. The new stack provides for improved atmospheric dispersion of the gaseous effluent because it is higher than the existing release point and is more favorably located with

respect to nearby structures. Existing radiation monitor EMF 53 will be relocated to monitor all exhaust gases for the new release point and will continue to terminate releases automatically if significant radiation levels are sensed. Since the new HVAC system will service some areas presently serviced by the ABFVE, changes to the TS are needed to reflect reduced ABFVE system flowrates. TS changes are also needed to reflect the new elevated gaseous release point and changes in structure terminology.

The NRC has reviewed the proposed facility modification and finds no significant adverse environmental impact. Moreover, the proposed changes would represent significant improvements in environmental impacts associated with plant operation. Nonradiological environmental impacts would be improved by the new waste solidification equipment which eliminates the use of volatile chemicals for the waste solidification media and by new decontamination equipment no longer dependent upon aggressive cleaning chemicals. Radiological environmental impacts would be improved as noted above by reducing the disposable volume of solid and liquid radioactive waste and through improvements in the ventilation systems for associated buildings. The new ventilation systems and the existing ABFVE system with adjusted flowrate would provide a suitable environment for workers to maintain occupational radiological exposures within the limits of 10 CFR Part 20 and would be consistent with maintaining occupational radiological exposure as low as is reasonably achievable. Moreover, the proposed modifications and TS changes would not result in a significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational exposure. The gaseous curie release to unrestricted areas and associated offsite doses during normal operation or after postulated

accidents would not be increased by the proposed facility modifications or the associated TS changes. The modifications and TS changes also would not change the type of radioactivity released to unrestricted areas.

Accordingly, the Commission concludes that this proposed action would result in no significant adverse environmental impact.

Alternative to the Proposed Action:

Since the Commission concluded that there are no significant environmental effects that would result from the proposed action, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impacts need not be evaluated.

The principal alternative would be to deny the requested amendments. This would not reduce environmental impacts of plant operation and would preclude improvements in the processing, storage and reduction of solid and liquid contaminated materials to be disposed of as low-level radioactive waste.

Alternative Use of Resources:

This action does not involve the use of resources not previously considered in connection with the "Final Environmental Statement Relating to Operation of the William B. McGuire Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2," dated April 1976 or its addendum dated January 1981.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

The NRC staff has reviewed the licensee's request and did not consult other agencies or persons.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed license amendments.

Based on the foregoing environmental assessment, we conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant adverse effect on the quality of the human environment.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendments dated May 11, 1989 and supplemental letter of June 14, 1989. These documents are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. and at the Atkins Library, University of North Carolina, Charlotte (UNCC Station), North Carolina 28223.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 31st day of August 1989.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



David B. Matthews, Director
Project Directorate II-3
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendments dated May 11, 1989 and supplemental letter of June 14, 1989. These documents are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. and at the Atkins Library, University of North Carolina, Charlotte (UNCC Station), North Carolina 28223.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 31st day of August 1989.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Original Signed By:
David B. Matthews

David B. Matthews, Director
Project Directorate II-3
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

[MCGUIRE EA 73113/4 WASTE BLDG]

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