June 12, 1991

Docket Nos. 50-369
and 50-370

Distribution
See next page

Mr. M.S. Tuckman
Vice President -
Nuclear Operations
Duke Power Company
P.O. Box 1007
Charlotte, North Carolina 28201-1007

Dear Mr. Tuckman:

SUBJECT: ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT NO. 120 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NPF-9 AND AMENDMENT NO. 102 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NPF-17 - MCGUIRE NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2 (TACS 76998/76999)

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No.120 to Facility Operating License NPF-9 and Amendment No. 102 to Facility Operating License NPF-17 for the McGuire Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2. These amendments consist of changes to the Technical Specifications (TSs) in response to your application dated June 7, 1990, as supplemented October 4, 1990, and April 30, 1991.

The amendments revise TS 3/4.6.5.1, "Ice Condenser Containment Systems," to reduce the ice weight required to be maintained in the ice condenser ice baskets. Specifically, the total minimum ice weight is reduced from 2,466,420 pounds to 2,099,790 pounds, and the minimum weight for each basket is reduced from 1269 pounds to 1081 pounds.

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

Sincerely,

Timothy A. Reed, Project Manager
Project Directorate II-3
Division of Reactor Projects I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc w/enclosures:
See next page

Enclosures:
1. Amendment No. 120to NPF-9
2. Amendment No. 102to NPF-17
3. Safety Evaluation

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DATED: June 12, 1991

AMENDMENT NO. 120 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NPF-9 - McGuire Nuclear Station, Unit 1
AMENDMENT NO. 102 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NPF-17 - McGuire Nuclear Station, Unit 2

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

June 12, 1991

Docket Nos. 50-369
and 50-370

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Vice President -
Nuclear Operations
Duke Power Company
P.O. Box 1007
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Project Directorate II-3
Division of Reactor Projects I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosures:
1. Amendment No. 120 to NPF-9
2. Amendment No. 102 to NPF-17
3. Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosures:
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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

DUKE POWER COMPANY

DOCKET NO. 50-369

McGUIRE NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 1

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 120
License No. NPF-9

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:

   A. The application for amendment to the McGuire Nuclear Station, Unit 1 (the facility) Facility Operating License No. NPF-9 filed by the Duke Power Company (the licensee) dated June 7, 1990, as supplemented October 4, 1990, and April 30, 1991, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations as set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;

   B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and 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 hereby amended by page changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment, and Paragraph 2.C.(2) of Facility Operating License No. NPF-9 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Technical Specifications

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No.120 , are hereby incorporated into 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 its date of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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

Attachment:
Technical Specification
Changes

Date of Issuance: June 12, 1991

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

DUKE POWER COMPANY

DOCKET NO. 50-370

McGUIRE NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 2

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 102
License No. NPF-17

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:

   A. The application for amendment to the McGuire Nuclear Station, Unit 2 (the facility) Facility Operating License No. NPF-17 filed by the Duke Power Company (the licensee) dated June 7, 1990, as supplemented October 4, 1990, and April 30, 1991, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations as set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;

   B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and 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 hereby amended by page changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment, and Paragraph 2.C.(2) of Facility Operating License No. NPF-17 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Technical Specifications

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 102, are hereby incorporated into 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 its date of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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

Attachment:
Technical Specification
Changes

Date of Issuance: June 12, 1991

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 120

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-9

DOCKET NO. 50-369

AND

TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 102

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-17

DOCKET NO. 50-370

Replace the following pages of the Appendix "A" Technical Specifications with the enclosed pages. The revised pages are identified by Amendment number and contain vertical lines indicating the areas of change. The corresponding overleaf page is also provided to maintain document completeness.

Remove Pages	Insert Pages
3/4 6-34	3/4 6-34
3/4 6-35	3/4 6-35
3/4 6-36	3/4 6-36*
B 3/4 6-5	B 3/4 6-5

*Overleaf page

3/4.6.5 ICE CONDENSER

ICE BED

LIMITING CONDITION FOR OPERATION

3.6.5.1 The ice bed shall be OPERABLE with:

a. The stored ice having a boron concentration of at least 1800 ppm boron as sodium tetraborate and a pH of 9.0 to 9.5,

b. Flow channels through the ice condenser,

c. A maximum ice bed temperature of less than or equal to 27°F,

d. A total ice weight of at least 2,099,790 pounds at a 95% level of confidence, and

e. 1944 ice baskets.

APPLICABILITY: MODES 1, 2, 3, and 4.

ACTION:

With the ice bed inoperable, restore the ice bed to OPERABLE status within 48 hours or be in at least HOT STANDBY within the next 6 hours and in COLD SHUTDOWN within the following 30 hours.

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS

4.6.5.1 The ice condenser shall be determined OPERABLE:

a. At least once per 12 hours by using the Ice Bed Temperature Monitoring System to verify that the maximum ice bed temperature is less than or equal to 27°F,

b. At least once per 9 months by:

1) Chemical analyses which verify that at least nine representative samples of stored ice have a boron concentration of at least 1800 ppm as sodium tetraborate and a pH of 9.0 to 9.5 at 20°C;

2) Weighing a representative sample of at least 144 ice baskets and verifying that each basket contains at least 1081 lbs of ice. The representative sample shall include 6 baskets from each of the 24 ice condenser bays and shall be constituted of

1 basket each from Radial Rows 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, and 9 (or from the same row of an adjacent bay if a basket from a designated row cannot be obtained for weighing) within each bay. If any basket is found to contain less than 1081 pounds of ice, a representative sample of 20 additional baskets from the same bay shall be weighed. The minimum average weight of ice from the 20 additional baskets and the discrepant basket shall not be less than 1081 pounds/basket at a 95% level of confidence.

The ice condenser shall also be subdivided into 3 groups of baskets, as follows: Group 1 - Bays 1 through 8, Group 2 - Bays 9 through 16, and Group 3 - Bays 17 through 24. The minimum average ice weight of the sample baskets from Radial Rows 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, and 9 in each group shall not be less than 1081 pounds/basket at a 95% level of confidence.

The minimum total ice condenser ice weight at a 95% level of confidence shall be calculated using all ice basket weights determined during this weighing program and shall not be less than 2,099,790 pounds; and

3) Verifying, by a visual inspection of at least two flow passages per ice condenser bay, that the accumulation of frost or ice on flow passages between ice baskets, past lattice frames, through the intermediate and top deck floor grating, or past the lower inlet plenum support structures and turning vanes is restricted to a thickness of less than or equal to 0.38 inch. If one flow passage per bay is found to have an accumulation of frost or ice with a thickness of greater than or equal to 0.38 inch, a representative sample of 20 additional flow passages from the same bay shall be visually inspected. If these additional flow passages are found acceptable, the surveillance program may proceed considering the single deficiency as unique and acceptable. More than one restricted flow passage per bay is evidence of abnormal degradation of the ice condenser.

c. At least once per 40 months by lifting and visually inspecting the accessible portions of at least two ice baskets from each one-third of the ice condenser and verifying that the ice baskets are free of detrimental structural wear, cracks, corrosion, or other damage. The ice baskets shall be raised at least 12 feet for this inspection.

ICE BED TEMPERATURE MONITORING SYSTEM

LIMITING CONDITION FOR OPERATION

3.6.5.2 The Ice Bed Temperature Monitoring System shall be OPERABLE with at least two OPERABLE RTD channels in the ice bed at each of three basic elevations (10'6", 30'9" and 55' above the floor of the ice condenser) for each one-third of the ice condenser.

APPLICABILITY: MODES 1, 2, 3, and 4.

ACTION:

a. With the Ice Bed Temperature Monitoring System inoperable, POWER OPERATION may continue for up to 30 days provided:

   1. The ice compartment lower inlet doors, intermediate deck doors, and top deck doors are closed;

   2. The last recorded mean ice bed temperature was less than or equal to 20°F and steady; and

   3. The ice condenser cooling system is OPERABLE with at least:

      a) 21 OPERABLE air handling units,

      b) 2 OPERABLE glycol circulating pumps, and

      c) 3 OPERABLE refrigerant units;

   Otherwise, be in at least HOT STANDBY within 6 hours and in COLD SHUTDOWN within the following 30 hours.

b. With the Ice Bed Temperature Monitoring System inoperable and with the Ice Condenser Cooling System not satisfying the minimum components OPERABILITY requirements of ACTION a.3. above, POWER OPERATION may continue for up to 6 days provided the ice compartment lower inlet doors, intermediate deck doors, and top deck doors are closed and the last recorded mean ice bed temperature was less than or equal to 15°F and steady; otherwise, be in at least HOT STANDBY within the next 6 hours and in COLD SHUTDOWN within the following 30 hours.

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS

4.6.5.2 The Ice Bed Temperature Monitoring System shall be determined OPERABLE by performance of a CHANNEL CHECK at least once per 12 hours.

3/4.6.5 ICE CONDENSER

The requirements associated with each of the components of the ice condenser ensure that the overall system will be available to provide sufficient pressure suppression capability to limit the containment peak pressure transient to less than 14.8 psig during LOCA conditions.

3/4.6.5.1 ICE BED

The OPERABILITY of the ice bed ensures that the required ice inventory will: (1) be distributed evenly through the containment bays, (2) contain sufficient boron to preclude dilution of the containment sump following the LOCA, and (3) contain sufficient heat removal capability to condense the Reactor Coolant System volume released during a LOCA. These conditions are consistent with the assumptions used in the accident analyses.

The minimum weight figure of 1081 pounds of ice per basket contains a 10% conservative allowance for ice loss through sublimation which is a factor of 10 higher than assumed for the ice condenser design. The minimum weight figure of 2,099,790 pounds of ice also contains an additional 1.1% conservative allowance to account for systematic error in weighing instruments. In the event that observed sublimation rates are equal to or lower than design predictions after 3 years of operation, the minimum ice baskets weight may be adjusted downward. In addition, the number of ice baskets required to be weighed each 9 months may be reduced after 3 years of operation if such a reduction is supported by observed sublimation data.

3/4.6.5.2 ICE BED TEMPERATURE MONITORING SYSTEM

The OPERABILITY of the Ice Bed Temperature Monitoring System ensures that the capability is available for monitoring the ice temperature. In the event the system is inoperable, the ACTION requirements provide assurance that the ice bed heat removal capacity will be retained within the specified time limits.

3/4.6.5.3 ICE CONDENSER DOORS

The OPERABILITY of the ice condenser doors and the requirement that they be maintained closed ensures that the Reactor Coolant System fluid released during a LOCA will be diverted through the ice condenser bays for heat removal and that excessive sublimation of the ice bed will not occur because of warm air intrusion.

If an ice condenser door is not capable of opening automatically, then system function is seriously degraded and immediate action must be taken to restore the opening capability of the door. Not capable of opening automatically is defined as those conditions in which a door is physically blocked from opening by installation of a blocking device or by obstruction from temporary or permanent installed equipment or is otherwise inhibited from opening such as may result from ice, frost, debris or increased door opening torque.

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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 120 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NPF-9

AND AMENDMENT NO. 102 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NPF-17

DUKE POWER COMPANY

MCGUIRE NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2

DOCKET NOS. 50-369 AND 50-370

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated June 7, 1990, as supplemented October 4, 1990, and April 30, 1991, the Duke Power Company (licensee) submitted a request for changes to the McGuire Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2, Technical Specifications (TSs). The requested changes would revise TS 3/4.6.5.1, "Ice Condenser Containment Systems," to reduce the ice weight required to be maintained in the containment ice condenser ice baskets. The supplemental information provided by letters dated October 4, 1990, and April 30, 1991, was clarifying in nature and did not affect the scope of the noticed action or the NRC staff's proposed significant hazards consideration analysis.

2.0 EVALUATION

2.1 ICE WEIGHT REDUCTION

The function of the ice in the ice condenser is to absorb thermal energy released into the containment by accidents, particularly by the design-basis loss of coolant accident (LOCA) which provides the most limiting challenge to the ice condenser and determines the minimum required amount (weight) of ice. All of the ice will melt during a design-basis LOCA (after about an hour), so the amount of ice and the amount of heat it absorbs has a direct impact on the peak containment pressure which occurs after the ice has melted.

Current McGuire TS 3/4.6.5.1 requires a minimum total ice weight of 2,466,420 lbs. which, when divided evenly among 1944 ice baskets, yields 1269 lbs. of ice per basket. This contains a 10% allowance for ice loss through sublimation during the periods between ice weighing surveillances (required every 9 months) and an additional 1.1% allowance to account for systematic error in the weighing instruments. Thus, the actual ice weight assumed in the safety analysis was 2,220,000 lbs. In the licensee's current safety analysis, called the "FSAR 1989 Containment Pressure Calculation," 2,220,000 lbs. of ice results in a peak containment pressure of 12.36 psig. Containment design capability is 15.0 psig.

The McGuire ice condensers have suffered from a significantly higher sublimation rate than the 1% per fuel cycle assumed in the Westinghouse design. As a result, the licensee must replenish the ice in a large fraction of the ice baskets at each refueling outage by removing all the ice from a basket (by mechanically breaking up the ice) and reloading it with flaked ice. Even with this, the individual ice baskets with the worst sublimation problems, i.e., those in the row nearest the ice condenser compartment inner wall which borders on the (hot) containment upper and lower compartments, are in danger of dropping below the minimum required ice weight between ice weighing surveillances. The licensee is working to reduce the sublimation rate, but so far has met with limited success. To alleviate the existing sublimation problem, the licensee has proposed a reduction in the TS required minimum ice weight. The proposed total ice weight is 2,099,790 lbs. which gives 1081 lbs. per basket. This is based on a safety-analysis ice weight of 1,890,000 lbs., with 11.1% margin added as discussed above. The licensee had a new safety analysis performed by Westinghouse using the LOTIC-1 computer code, in which the only input parameter changed from the previous analysis, cited above, was the ice weight which was lowered to 1,890,000 lbs. The LOTIC-1 code is specified in Standard Review Plan 6.2.1.1.B, NUREG-0800, dated July 1981, as an NRC staff-approved code for calculation of ice condenser containment pressure and temperature response to LOCAs. The resultant peak containment pressure is 14.07 psig, which is less than the containment design pressure of 15.0 psig and the containment integrated leakage rate test pressure of 14.8 psig specified by TS 3/4.6.1.2.

Since the only input parameter changed for the new LOTIC-1 analysis was the ice weight, the NRC staff finds the input parameters to be acceptable. Since the LOTIC-1 code is staff-approved, the new safety analysis of containment pressure response is acceptable. Because the new analysis results in a peak containment pressure below the containment design pressure, the new safety-analysis ice weight of 1,890,000 lbs., and therefore, the new TS ice weight of 2,099,790 lbs. total and 1081 lbs. per basket, are acceptable.

2.2 CORRECTION TO BASES

Bases section 3/4.6.5.1 states that the TS minimum ice weight contains a 10% allowance for ice loss through sublimation and an additional 1% allowance for systematic error in weighing instruments. The licensee submits that this is in error because the total allowance or margin is 11.1%; thus, the 1% figure should be changed to 1.1%.

The correct margin is 11.1%; however, the existing Basis is not, strictly speaking, in error, but is subject to two interpretations. The licensee's interpretation is straightforward: 10% margin for sublimation and another 1.1% for systematic error. The second interpretation, which was the intended meaning of the existing Basis, is best explained by the following hypothetical example. For example, if the safety-analysis total ice weight is 100 lbs, then a 10% margin for sublimation would increase this to 110 lbs. A further 1% of that resultant weight (i.e. 1% of 110 lbs.) equals another 1.1 lbs. to be added on, giving a final total of 111.1 lbs. Thus, the total margin is 11.1% of the original weight.

Although the intended meaning of the existing Basis is correct, it is obviously ambiguous and could be interpreted as allowing a less conservative 11.0% margin. The licensee's proposal to change the 1% figure to 1.1% would clarify the Basis in a conservative way since a misinterpretation of the revised Basis would give a total margin of 11.21%. Finally, the proposed revision is more straightforward and easier to understand. Therefore, the NRC staff finds the proposed revision to Bases section 3/4.6.5.1 to be acceptable.

3.0 STATE CONSULTATION

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

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendments change requirements with respect to 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 (55 FR 32326). 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.

5.0 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.

Principal Contributor: Jim Pulsipher, PSLB/DST

Date: June 12, 1991