

July 3, 1996

Mr. T. C. McMeekin
Vice President, McGuire Site
Duke Power Company
12700 Hagers Ferry Road
Huntersville, North Carolina 28078

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT - MCGUIRE NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2

Dear Mr. McMeekin:

Enclosed is a copy of an "Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact" related to your amendment application of March 4, 1996. The proposed amendments consist of changes to the McGuire Units 1 and 2 Final Safety Analysis Report that would delete the seismic qualification requirement for the Containment Atmosphere Particulate Radiation Monitors.

Sincerely,

/s/
Victor Nerses, Project Manager
Project Directorate II-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-369
and 50-370

Enclosure: Environmental Assessment

DISTRIBUTION

Docket File
PUBLIC
PD22 r/f
SVarga
JZwolinski
OGC, O-15B18
ACRS, TWF
EMerschhoff, RII
RCrlenjak, RII

To receive a copy of this document, indicate in the box: "C" = Copy without attachment/enclosure "E" = Copy with attachment/enclosure "N" = No copy

OFFICE	LA:PD22:DPPE	PM:PD22	OGC	D:PD22				
NAME	LBERRY	VNERSES:cdw		HBERKOW				
DATE	6/12/96	6/26/96	7/1/96	7/3/96	1/96	1/96		

DOCUMENT NAME: G:\MCGUIRE\M94902.EA

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

100144

9607100204 960703
PDR ADOCK 05000369
P PDR

FILE CENTER COPY

DF01



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

July 3, 1996

Mr. T. C. McMeekin
Vice President, McGuire Site
Duke Power Company
12700 Hagers Ferry Road
Huntersville, North Carolina 28078

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT - MCGUIRE NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2

Dear Mr. McMeekin:

Enclosed is a copy of an "Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact" related to your amendment application of March 4, 1996. The proposed amendments consist of changes to the McGuire Units 1 and 2 Final Safety Analysis Report that would delete the seismic qualification requirement for the Containment Atmosphere Particulate Radiation Monitors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Victor Nerses".

Victor Nerses, Project Manager
Project Directorate II-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-369
and 50-370

Enclosure: Environmental Assessment

cc w/enclosure: See next page

Mr. T. C. McMeekin
Duke Power Company

McGuire Nuclear Station

cc:

Mr. Paul R. Newton
Legal Department, (PB05E)
Duke Power Company
422 South Church Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28242-0001

Ms. Karen E. Long
Assistant Attorney General
North Carolina Department of
Justice
P. O. Box 629
Raleigh, North Carolina 27602

County Manager of Mecklenburg County
720 East Fourth Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28202

Mr. G. A. Copp
Licensing - EC050
Duke Power Company
526 South Church Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28242

Mr. J. E. Snyder
Regulatory Compliance Manager
Duke Power Company
McGuire Nuclear Site
12700 Hagers Ferry Road
Huntersville, North Carolina 28078

Regional Administrator, Region II
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
101 Marietta Street, NW. Suite 2900
Atlanta, Georgia 30323

J. Michael McGarry, III, Esquire
Winston and Strawn
1400 L Street, NW.
Washington, DC 20005

Elaine Wathen, Lead REP Planner
Division of Emergency Management
116 West Jones Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27603-1335

Senior Resident Inspector
c/o U. S. Nuclear Regulatory
Commission
12700 Hagers Ferry Road
Huntersville, North Carolina 28078

Mr. Dayne H. Brown, Director
Division of Radiation Protection
North Carolina Department of
Environmental Health and Natural
Resources
P. O. Box 27687
Raleigh, North Carolina 27611-7687

Mr. Peter R. Harden, IV
Account Sales Manager
Westinghouse Electric Corporation
Power Systems Field Sales
P. O. Box 7288
Charlotte, North Carolina 28241

Heinz Mueller (5 cys of EA)
Environmental Review Coordinator
345 Courtland Street, NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30365

Dr. John M. Barry
Mecklenburg County
Department of Environmental
Protection
700 N. Tryon Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28202

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONDUKE POWER COMPANYDOCKET NOS. 50-369 AND 50-370MCGUIRE NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT NOS. 1 AND 2ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OFNO 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, North Carolina.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTIdentification of the Proposed Action:

By letter dated March 4, 1996, Duke Power Company (DPC) submitted a proposal for amendments to the Facility Operating Licenses that would allow the McGuire Units 1 and 2 Containment Airborne Particulate Radiation Monitors (CAPRMs, 1/2 EMF38(L)) to be reclassified in the Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR) as non-seismic Category I. During a DPC engineering review of the seismic classification of these CAPRMs, it was determined that these monitors are not seismic Category I. Furthermore, DPC had documents that showed that these monitors are not required nor were they ever intended to be seismically qualified. Also, in a DPC letter to the NRC dated March 25, 1981, DPC further stipulated that the CAPRMs were not safety related. However, none of this information was reflected in the McGuire FSAR.

By letter dated March 4, 1996, the licensee stated that the matter involved an unreviewed safety question and requested amendments to its Facility Operating Licenses including proposed changes to the FSAR, which would clarify that the CAPRMs are not designed to remain functional following

a safe shutdown earthquake (SSE). Further, the licensee has proposed an alternative to Position C.6 of Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.45, "Reactor Coolant Pressure Boundary Leakage Detection Systems," by showing that adequate instrumentation and procedures will be available to assess conditions inside containment following a seismic event comparable to an SSE and that, accordingly, the seismic qualification requirement for the CAPRMs may be deleted from the FSAR.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed action is needed so that the appropriate seismic qualification for the CAPRMs can be reflected in the FSAR.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed revisions to the FSAR. The proposed revisions would permit the Containment Airborne Particulate Radiation Monitors (1/2 EMF38(L)) at McGuire Units 1 and 2 to be classified as non-seismic Category I. The safety considerations associated with this re-classification have been evaluated by the NRC staff. The staff has concluded that the licensee has demonstrated an acceptable alternative to Position C.6 of RG 1.45 by showing that adequate instrumentation and procedures will be available to assess conditions inside containment following a seismic event comparable to an SSE. The proposed changes have no adverse effect on the probability of any accident. No changes are being made in the types or amounts of any radiological effluents that may be released offsite. There is no significant increase in the allowable individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure.

Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed amendments.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed action involves features located entirely within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. It does not affect nonradiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action:

Since the Commission has concluded there is no measurable environmental impact associated with the proposed action, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impact need not be evaluated. The principal alternative to this action would be to deny the requested amendments. Such action would not reduce the environmental impacts of plant operations.

Alternative Use of Resources:

This action does not involve the use of resources not previously considered in the "Final Environmental Statement Related to the Operation of McGuire Nuclear Station Units 1 and 2," dated April 1976.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

In accordance with its stated policy, on July 8, 1996, the NRC staff consulted with the North Carolina State official, Mr. J. James of the Division of Radiation Protection, Department of Environmental, Health and Natural Resources, regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comments.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Based upon 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 license amendments.

For further details with respect to this action, see the licensee's letter dated March 4, 1996, which is 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 J. Murrey Atkins Library, University of North Carolina at Charlotte (UNCC Station), Charlotte, North Carolina.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 3rd day of July 1996.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Victor Nerses, Project Manager
Project Directorate II-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation