

October 9, 1990

Docket No. 50-261

Mr. Lynn W. Eury
Executive Vice President
Power Supply
Carolina Power & Light Company
Post Office Box 1551
Raleigh, North Carolina 27602

Dear Mr. Eury:

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR APPENDIX R EXEMPTION FOR
H. B. ROBINSON STEAM ELECTRIC PLANT, UNIT NO. 2
(TAC NO. 77310)

Enclosed for your information is a copy of an Environmental Assessment regarding
an exemption to Appendix R to 10 CFR Part 50, Section III G.2.

The exemption would allow an increase in the quantity of intervening
combustibles between redundant trains, as well as an increase in overall
combustible loading in the area. The combined quantity will not exceed one
hour loading.

The Environmental Assessment has been forwarded to the Office of the Federal
Register for publication.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:
Ronnie H. Lo, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate II-1
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
As stated

cc: See next page

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Mr. L. W. Eury
Carolina Power & Light Company

H. B. Robinson Steam Electric
Plant, Unit No. 2

cc:

Mr. R. E. Jones, General Counsel
Carolina Power & Light Company
P. O. Box 1551
Raleigh, North Carolina 27602

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

Mr. H. A. Cole
Special Deputy Attorney General
State of North Carolina
P. O. Box 629
Raleigh, North Carolina 27602

Mr. Robert P. Gruber
Executive Director
Public Staff - NCUC
P. O. Box 29520
Raleigh, North Carolina 27626-0520

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Resident Inspector's Office
H. B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant
Route 5, Box 413
Hartsville, South Carolina 29550

Mr. C. R. Dietz
Manager, Robinson Nuclear Project
Department
H. B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant
P. O. Box 790
Hartsville, South Carolina 29550

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

Mr. Heyward G. Shealy, Chief
Bureau of Radiological Health
South Carolina Department of Health
and Environmental Control
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Mr. R. Morgan
General Manager
H. B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant
P. O. Box 790
Hartsville, South Carolina 29550

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONCAROLINA POWER & LIGHT COMPANYH. B. ROBINSON STEAM ELECTRIC PLANT, UNIT NO. 2DOCKET NO. 50-261ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an exemption from the requirements of Appendix R to 10 CFR Part 50 to Carolina Power & Light Company (the licensee) for the H. B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant, Unit No. 2, located in Darlington County, South Carolina.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTIdentification of Proposed Action

The exemption would revise the combustible loading value identified for the component cooling water (CCW) pump room.

The exemption is responsive to the licensee's application for exemption dated July 30, 1990, as supplemented by letter August 16, 1990.

The Need for the Proposed Action

The proposed exemption is needed because the existing cable trays cannot accommodate the additional fire loading from installation of new cables and routing of the new cables in dedicated conduits would not be practical. The features described in the licensee's request regarding the existing fire protection at their plant for these items are the most practical method for meeting the intent of Appendix R and literal compliance would not significantly enhance the fire protection capability.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

The proposed exemption will provide a degree of fire protection that is equivalent to that required by Appendix R for other areas of the plant so there is no increase in the risk of fires at this facility. Consequently, the probability of fires has not been increased, and the post-accident radiological releases will not be greater than previously determined nor does the proposed exemption otherwise affect radiological plant effluents. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with this proposed exemption.

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

Alternative Use of Resources

This action involves no use of resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement Related to the Operation of H. B. Robinson Nuclear Steam-Electric Plant Unit 2, dated April 1975.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

The NRC staff 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 exemption.

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

For further details with respect to this action see the application for the exemption dated July 30, 1990, as supplemented by letter dated August 16, 1990, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document, 2120 L Street, NW, the Gelman Building, Washington DC, and at the Hartsville Memorial Library, Home and Fifth Avenue, Hartsville, South Carolina 29550.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 9th day of October , 1990.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Original Signed By:

Elinor G. Adensam, Director
Project Directorate II-1
Division of Reactor Projects I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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NRC PDR

Local PDR

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G. Lainas

14-H-3

E. Adensam

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L. Reyes

RII

P. Anderson

14-B-20

R. Lo

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OGC

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E. Jordan

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