January 31, 1991

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: EXEMPTION FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF 10 CFR 55.59(c)(4)(i) REQUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS - H. B. ROBINSON STEAM ELECTRIC PLANT, UNIT NO. 2 (TAC NO. 79287)

By letter dated December 28, 1990, Carolina Power & Light Company requested an exemption from the licensed operator requalification program requirements of 10 CFR 55.59(c)(4)(i) in order to extend the requalification examination schedule for licensed operators for one calander quarter (from January 31, 1991 to April 30, 1991) on a one-time only basis.

The Commission has granted the requested exemption pursuant to 10 CFR Part 55.11. A copy of the exemption is enclosed and is being filed with the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

A Notice of Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact was published in the Federal Register on January 31, 1991 (56 FR 3845).

Sincerely,

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 w/enclosure:
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:
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and Environmental Control
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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the matter of	)	
	)	
Carolina Power & Light Company	)	Docket No. 50-261
	)	
H.B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant, Unit No. 2 (HBR-2)	)	

EXEMPTION

I.

Carolina Power & Light Company (CP&L) is the holder of Facility Operating License No. DRP-23, which authorizes operation of the H. B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant, Unit No. 2 (HBR-2). The license provides, among other things, that the licensee is subject to all rules, regulations and orders of the Commission now or hereafter in effect.

The facility consists of a pressurized water reactor at the licensee's site located in Darlington County, South Carolina.

II.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 55.59(c)(4)(i), which this exemption is being requested for, comprehensive requalification written examinations and annual operating tests shall be given to licensed operators.

III.

HBR-2 has planned to return to power operation in January 1991 after an extensive refueling outage that began in September 1990. The licensee has proposed a one-time extension of the examination schedule for one calendar quarter from January 31, 1991 to April 30, 1991. This exemption would accommodate the work-schedules of the licensed operators who are engaged in

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outage related tasks. Compliance with the examination schedule as stipulated in 10 CFR 55.59(c)(4)(i) would place an extra burden on the work schedules of the licensed operators during the refueling outage. During the exemption period, the licensee has committed to continue the requalification program including scheduled training and all requirements of the requalification program except for the examinations. This one-time postponement of the examinations would not involve any significant impact on the safe operation of the plant; and the licensee would benefit from the availability of the plant personnel for the work scheduled during the refueling outage, including plant modifications to improve safety.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 55.11, "The Commission may, upon application by an interested person, or upon its own initiative, grant such exemptions from the requirements of the regulations in this part as it determines are authorized by law and will not endanger life or property and are otherwise in the public interest."

IV.

Accordingly, the Commission has determined, pursuant to 10 CFR 55.11, that an exemption as described in Section III is authorized by law, will not endanger life or property and is otherwise in the public interest. Therefore, the Commission hereby grants the following exemption:

Carolina Power & Light Company is granted a one-time exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 55.59(c)(4)(i) and postpone the completion of the of the licensed operator requalification examinations from January 31, 1991, to April 30, 1991.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.21, 51.32, and 51.35, an Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact has been prepared and was published in the Federal Register on January 31, 1991 (56 FR 3845). Accordingly, based upon the environmental assessment, the Commission has determined that the issuance of this exemption will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

For further details with respect to this action, see the licensee's request dated December 28, 1990, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. and at the Hartsville Memorial Library, Home and Fifth Avenues, Hartsville, South Carolina 29535.

This exemption is effective upon issuance.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 31th day of January 1991.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Steven A. Varga, Director
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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NAME	PAnderson	RLo:sw			EAdensam
DATE	1/29/91	1/29/91	1/31/91	1/27/91	1/30/91

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DATE	1/30/91	1/30/91	1/30/91		

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