

June 23, 1988

Docket No. 50-400

Mr. E. E. Utley  
Senior Executive Vice President  
Power Supply and Engineering & Construction  
Carolina Power & Light Company  
Post Office Box 1551  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27602

Dear Mr. Utley:

SUBJECT: PHYSICALS FOR USERS OF RESPIRATORY EQUIPMENT - SHEARON HARRIS  
NUCLEAR POWER PLANT, UNIT 1 (TAC NO. 67361)

Enclosed is a copy of an Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact relative to the Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant, Unit 1, for your information. This assessment relates to your January 30, 1986 request for exemption from certain requirements of 10 CFR 20.103(c)(2).

This assessment has been forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

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Bart C. Buckley, Sr. Project Manager  
Project Directorate II-1  
Division of Reactor Projects I/II

Enclosure:  
Environmental Assessment

cc: See next page

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONCAROLINA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY, et al.SHEARON HARRIS NUCLEAR POWER PLANT, UNIT 1DOCKET NO. 50-400ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ANDFINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or the Commission) is considering issuance of an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 20.103(c)(2), regarding the administration of physical examinations for users of respiratory equipment, to the Carolina Power & Light Company (CP&L or the licensee), for the Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant, Unit 1, located in Wake and Chatham Counties, North Carolina.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTIdentification of Proposed Action:

The proposed exemption would permit the licensee to administer physical examinations for users of respiratory equipment at an interval of every 9 to 15 months, as opposed to the 12 month interval required by 10 CFR 20.103(c)(2). These examinations verify the physical capability of individuals to use respiratory protective equipment in an environment containing airborne radioactive material.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

Currently, the licensee schedules physical examinations every 8 to 12 months to assure compliance with the 12-month requirement. Consequently, there are calendar years in which two examinations are scheduled. Because of the number of licensee employees requiring examinations, a two month period

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(e.g. June 1 to July 31) is set aside for the administration of all physical examinations. To assure compliance with the 12-month requirement, all examinations in the following year must be completed before June 1. Approval of this proposed exemption would provide greater flexibility in scheduling of examinations and preclude the need for administration of two examinations in the same calendar year.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

We have evaluated the environmental impacts related to granting the requested exemption. The administration of physical examinations for users of emergency respiratory equipment on the schedule proposed by the licensee will not, in any way, reduce the integrity of any safety system. Accordingly, post-accident radiological releases will not be greater than previously determined nor does the proposed schedule for physical examinations otherwise affect radiological plant effluents, and there is no significant increase in occupational exposures. 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 the use of systems 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.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action:

Because it has been concluded that there is no measurable environmental impact associated with the proposed exemption, any alternatives to the exemption will have either no environmental impacts or greater environmental impacts.

The principal alternative to granting the exemption would be to deny the requested exemption. Such action would not reduce environmental impacts of the Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant, Unit 1, operations and would not enhance the protection of the environment.

Alternative Use of Resources:

This action would involve no use of resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement (operating license) for the Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant, Unit 1.

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 exemption dated January 30, 1986, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.,

and at the Richard B. Harrison Library, 1313 New Bern Avenue, Raleigh, North Carolina 27610.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 23rd day of June, 1988.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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

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