

October 2, 1992

Docket No. 50-261

Mr. R. A. Watson  
Senior Vice President  
Nuclear Generation  
Carolina Power & Light Company  
Post Office Box 1551  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27602

Dear Mr. Watson:

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT RELATED TO EXEMPTION FROM SECTION III.J OF APPENDIX R - H. B. ROBINSON STEAM ELECTRIC PLANT, UNIT NO. 2 (TAC NO. M82759)

Enclosed for your information is a copy of an Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact related to the exemption requested in your letter dated January 22, 1992. This Environmental Assessment has been forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Brenda L. Mozafari, Project Manager  
Project Directorate II-1  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:  
Environmental Assessment

cc w/enclosure:  
See next page

\*See Previous Concurrence

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Mr. R. A. Watson  
Carolina Power & Light Company

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

cc:

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

CAROLINA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

DOCKET NO. 50-261

ENVIRONMENTAL 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 ASSESSMENT

Identification of Proposed Action: The exemption would grant relief in 10 areas where fire protection features are not in conformance with the technical requirements of Section III.J of Appendix R to 10 CFR Part 50, which requires eight-hour battery powered emergency lighting units in certain areas. The exemption is in response to the licensee's request dated January 22, 1992.

The Need for the Proposed Action: The proposed exemption is needed because the portable lighting units described in the licensee's request regarding the emergency lighting are more practical for meeting Appendix R. Literal compliance with Appendix R would not significantly enhance safety and is not necessary to meet the intent of Appendix R.

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Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action: The proposed exemption will not adversely affect the licensee's ability to achieve and maintain safe shutdown conditions following a postulated fire. The probability of a fire will not be increased, and the post-fire radiological releases will be no greater than previously determined; furthermore, the proposed exemption will not otherwise affect radiological plant effluents. The Commission concludes, therefore, that there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with this proposed exemption.

With regard to potential non-radiological impacts, the proposed exemptions involve features located entirely within the restricted areas as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. They do not affect non-radiological plant effluents and have 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 does not involve use of resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement for the H. B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant, Unit No. 2, dated April 1975.

Agencies and Persons Consulted: The 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, the staff concludes 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 request for exemption dated January 22, 1992, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC 20555 and at the Local Public Document Room located at the Hartsville Memorial Library, Home and Fifth Avenues, Hartsville, South Carolina 29535.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 2nd day of October 1992.



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

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