

December 22, 1989

Docket No. 50-461

Mr. Dale L. Holtzscher
Acting Manager - Licensing & Safety
Clinton Power Station
Post Office Box 678
Mail Code V920
Clinton, Illinois 61727

Dear Mr. Holtzscher:

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT
IMPACT - TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION CHANGES TO IMPLEMENT
A CYCLE-SPECIFIC CORE OPERATING LIMITS REPORT PER NRC
GENERIC LETTER 88-16 - CLINTON POWER STATION, UNIT 1

Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.119, the Commission has requested the Office of the
Federal Register to publish the enclosed "Environmental Assessment and Finding
of No Significant Impact." This notice is in regard to your request dated
June 12, 1989 as amended August 17, 1989 for changes to the Technical
Specification sections having cycle-specific parameter limits. The revised TS
would not contain the values of those limits but would refer to a Core
Operating Limits Report for the values of those limits.

Sincerely,
/s/

John B. Hickman, Project Manager
Project Directorate III-2
Division of Reactor Projects III,
IV, V, and Special Projects

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

December 22, 1989

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John B. Hickman".

John B. Hickman, Project Manager
Project Directorate III-2
Division of Reactor Projects III,
IV, V, and Special Projects

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

Mr. Dale L. Holtzscher
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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONILLINOIS POWER COMPANY, ET AL.DOCKET NO. 50-461ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OFNO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to the Illinois Power Company (IP), and Soyland Power Cooperative, Inc. (the licensees) for Clinton Power Station, Unit 1, located in DeWitt County, Illinois.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTIdentification of Proposed Action:

The licensees have requested a license amendment that would revise the Technical Specifications (TS) to remove the cycle-specific parameter limits from the Technical Specifications. These cycle-specific limits will be maintained in a "Core Operating Limits Report," and the Technical Specifications will be revised to reference this report. The Technical Specifications will also be revised to add administrative controls for the Core Operating Limits Report. These administrative controls will require that the values in the report be established using NRC approved methodologies, and that copies of the report be supplied to the NRC upon issuance. This action is in response to NRC Generic Letter 88-16.

This revision to the Clinton Power Station license would be made in response to the licensees' application for amendment dated June 12, 1989 as amended August 17, 1989.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

Under the current Technical Specifications, a facility must have a license amendment processed to support each refueling (and the subsequent cycle of reactor operation) due to changes in cycle-specific parameters. NRC Generic Letter 88-16, "Removal of Cycle-Specific Parameter Limits from Technical Specifications," proposed an alternative which eliminates the need to process a license amendment to support each refueling. Generic Letter 88-16 lists three actions which are required to support the removal of cycle-specific parameter limits from the Technical Specifications. The first action requires the addition of a formal report that includes the values of cycle-specific parameter limits that have been established using an NRC-approved methodology and that are consistent with all applicable limits of the safety analysis. The second requires the addition of an administrative reporting requirement to submit the formal report on cycle-specific parameter limits to the NRC. The third requires the modification of the individual Technical Specifications to note that cycle-specific parameters shall be maintained within the limits provided in the defined formal report. Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.90, IP, et al., have proposed an amendment to Facility Operating License No. NPF-62 which consists of changes to the Technical Specifications. The changes establish a "Core Operating Limits Report," provide administrative controls for that report, and modify the TS that contain cycle-specific parameters to reference that report.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The proposed changes provide an acceptable response to the NRC guidance provided in NRC Generic Letter 88-16 on modifying cycle-specific parameter limits in TS. Plant operations will continue to be limited in accordance with the values of cycle-specific parameter limits that are established using NRC approved methodologies. The change is administrative in nature and has no impact on plant safety.

The Commission has concluded that these changes do not significantly increase the probability or consequences of any accident and that potential radiological releases during normal operations or transients would not be increased. With regard to non-radiological impacts, the proposed amendment involves systems located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. They do not affect non-radiological plant effluents and have no other environmental impact. Therefore, the staff also concludes that there are no significant non-radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed amendment.

Accordingly, the Commission findings in the "Final Environmental Statement related to the operation of Clinton Power Station, Unit No. 1" dated May 1982 regarding radiological environmental impacts from the plant during normal operation or after accident conditions, are not adversely altered by this action. IP is committed to operate Clinton, Unit 1 in accordance with standards and regulations to maintain occupational exposure levels "as low as reasonably achievable."

Alternative to the Proposed Actions:

Since the Commission has concluded that there are no significant environmental effects that would result from the proposed action, any alternative with equal or greater environmental impact need not be evaluated.

The principal alternative would be to deny the requested amendment. This would not reduce environmental impacts of plant operation and would result in reduced operational flexibility.

Alternative Use of Resources:

This action does not involve the use of resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement for the Clinton Station, Unit 1, dated May 1982.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

The NRC staff reviewed the licensees' request of June 12, 1989 as amended August 17, 1989 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 license amendment.

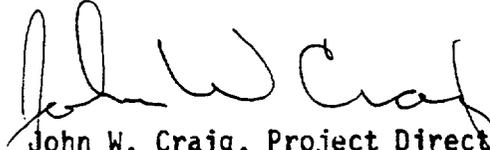
Based upon this environmental assessment, the Commission concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

The Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment and Opportunity for Hearing in connection with this action was published in the Federal Register on August 2, 1989 (54 FR 31900). No request for hearing or petition for leave to intervene was filed following this notice.

For further details with respect to this action, see the request for amendment dated June 12, 1989 as amended August 17, 1989 and the Final Environmental Statement for the Clinton Power Station dated May 1982, which are available for public inspection at the Commission Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20555 and at the Vespasian Warner Public Library, 120 West Johnson Street, Clinton, Illinois 61727.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 14th the day of December 1989.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John W. Craig".

John W. Craig, Project Director
Project Directorate III-2
Division of Reactor Projects - III,
IV, V and Special Projects