

Docket No. 50-373

AUG 3 1981

Mr. J. S. Abel
Director of Nuclear Licensing
Commonwealth Edison Company
Chicago, Illinois 60690

Dear Mr. Abel:

SUBJECT: EXTENSION OF CONSTRUCTION COMPLETION DATE - LA SALLE COUNTY STATION,
UNIT NO. 1

In response to your request dated May 20, 1981, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued an Order extending the construction completion date for the La Salle County Station, Unit No. 1. In lieu of the latest completion date of June 30, 1981, as specified in Construction Permit CPPR-99, the latest completion date has been extended to April 30, 1982 for Unit No. 1.

A copy of the Order granting the extension and our evaluation of your request are enclosed for your information. The Order has been forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

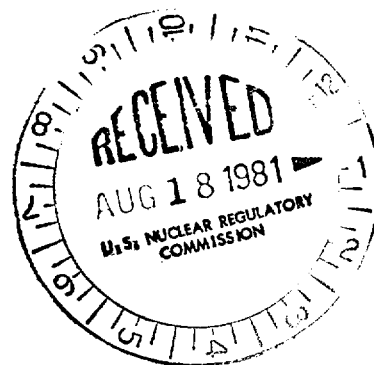
Original signed by
Darrell G. Eisenhut

Darrell G. Eisenhut, Director
Division of Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosures:

1. Order Extending Construction Completion Date
2. Staff Evaluation

cc w/enclosures:
See next page



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Mr. Louis O. Del George
Director of Nuclear Licensing
Commonwealth Edison Company
Post Office Box 767
Chicago, Illinois 60690

cc: Philip P. Steptoe, Esq.
Suite 4200
One First National Plaza
Chicago, Illinois 60603

Dean Hansell, Esquire
Assistant Attorney General
188 West Randolph Street
Suite 2315
Chicago, Illinois 60601

Mr. Roger Walker, Resident Inspector
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Post Office Box 224
Marseilles, Illinois 61364

Chairman, Board of Supervisors
of La Salle County
La Salle County Courthouse
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
ATTN: EIS Coordinator
Federal Activities Branch
Region V Office
230 South Dearborn Street
Chicago, Illinois 60604

Department of Public Health
Attn: Chief, Division of Nuclear Safety
535 West Jefferson
Springfield, Illinois 62761

COMMONWEALTH EDISON COMPANY

LA SALLE COUNTY STATION, UNIT NO. 1

DOCKET NO. 50-373

ORDER EXTENDING CONSTRUCTION COMPLETION DATE

Commonwealth Edison Company is the holder of Provisional Construction Permit No. CPPR99, issued by the Atomic Energy Commission* on September 10, 1973 for construction of La Salle County Station Unit No. 1. The plant is presently under construction at a site located in the agricultural area of Brookfield Township, La Salle County, approximately five miles south-southwest of Seneca, Illinois.

On May 20, 1981, the applicant requested an extension of the latest completion date because construction has been delayed by the following events:

1. Design verification of piping supports as required by NRC Office of Inspection and Enforcement Bulletin 79-14 entitled, "Seismic Analyses for As-Built Safety-Related Piping Systems
2. Accommodation of additional NRC criteria related to preoperational testing in numerous areas including vibration monitoring, leak rate testing and electrical system load verification
3. Potential construction schedule delays resulting from unforeseen equipment delivery difficulties which could affect critical path preoperational testing

*Effective January 19, 1975, the regulatory functions of the Atomic Energy Commission were assumed by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and permits in effect on that day were continued under the authority of the Nuclear Regulatory

Commission.

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4. Uncertainty attributable to potential expansion of NRC requirements beyond that presently identified in the La Salle County Station Safety Evaluation Report, NUREG-0519 dated March 1981. Augmentation of regulatory guidance in many areas could potentially affect construction completion. This is substantiated by recent experience on operating licenses issued since March 1978 where acknowledged delays were reported by the NRC on license applications.

This action involves no significant hazards consideration; good cause has been shown for the delays; and the requested extension is for a reasonable period.

The Commission has determined that this action will not result in any significant environmental impact and, pursuant to 10 CFR §1.5(d)(4), an environmental impact statement, or negative declaration and environmental impact appraisal, need not be prepared in connection with this action.

The NRC staff evaluation of the request for extension of the construction permit is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20555, and at the Public Library of Illinois Valley Community College, Rural Route No. 1, Oglesby, Illinois.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT the latest completion date for Construction Permit No. CPPR-99 is extended from June 30, 1981 to April 30, 1982.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Original signed by
Darrell G. Eisenhut
Darrell G. Eisenhut, Director
Division of Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Date of Issuance: **AUG 3 1981**

4. Uncertainty attributable to potential expansion of NRC requirements beyond that presently identified in the La Salle County Station Safety Evaluation Report, NUREG-0519 dated March 1981. Augmentation of regulatory guidance in many areas could potentially affect construction completion. This is substantiated by recent experience on operating licenses issued since March 1978 where acknowledged delays were reported by the NRC on license applications.

This action involves no significant hazards consideration; good cause has been shown for the delays; and the requested extension is for a reasonable period, the bases for which are set forth in the staff's evaluation of the request for extension.

The Commission has determined that this action will not result in any significant environmental impact and, pursuant to 10 CFR §51.5(d)(4), an environmental impact statement, or negative declaration and environmental impact appraisal, need not be prepared in connection with this action.

The NRC staff evaluation of the request for extension of the construction permit is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20555, and at the Public Library of Illinois Valley Community College, Rural Route No. 1, Oglesby, Illinois.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT the latest completion date for Construction Permit No. CPPR-99 is extended from June 30, 1981 to April 30, 1982.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Darrell G. Eisenhut, Director
Division of Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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EVALUATION OF REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF
PROVISIONAL CONSTRUCTION PERMIT NO. CPPR-99

LA SALLE COUNTY STATION, UNIT NO. 1

DOCKET NO. 50-373

Introduction

A construction permit was issued to the Commonwealth Edison Company (applicant) on September 10, 1973, authorizing construction of La Salle County Station, Unit No. 1, in Brookfield Township, La Salle County, Illinois. Construction Permit CPPR-99, as amended, specified June 30, 1981 as the latest date for completion of construction for Unit 1. The applicant's request for construction permit extension is contained in the letter of May 20, 1981.

Discussion

The applicant's letter of May 20, 1981, stated that the delay in the completion of construction of the La Salle County Station, Unit No. 1 is due to the following factors:

1. Design verification of piping support as required by NRC Office of Inspection and Enforcement Bulletin 79-14 entitled, "Seismic Analyses for As-Built Safety-Related Piping Systems."
2. Accommodation of additional NRC criteria related to preoperational testing in numerous areas including vibration monitoring, leak rate testing and electric system load verification.
3. Potential construction schedule delays resulting from unforeseen equipment delivery difficulties which could affect critical path preoperational testing.
4. Uncertainty attributable to potential expansion of NRC requirements beyond that presently identified in the La Salle County Satation Safety Evaluation Report, NUREG-0519 dated March 1981. Augmentation of regulatory guidance in many areas could potentially affect construction completion. This is substantiated by recent experience on operating licenses issued since March 1978 where acknowledged delays were reported by the NRC on license applications.

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Based on our review of the applicant's request, we find the above factors to be beyond the applicant's control and constitute good cause for extending the completion date of construction. The applicant has maintained a construction effort at Unit 1. Based on our evaluation of the causes for delay, we determined that the requested extension is for a reasonable period of time. This extension will not allow any work to be performed involving new safety information of a type not considered by a previous Commission safety review of the plant and that is not already allowed by the existing construction permit. Therefore, we find that: (1) this action does not involve a significant hazards consideration, (2) prior public notice of this action is not required, (3) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by the extension of the construction completion date, and (4) good cause exists for issuance of an Order extending the completion date.

Conclusions

Accordingly, issuance of an Order extending the latest completion date for construction of La Salle County Station, Unit No. 1 is reasonable and should be authorized. The latest completion date for Unit 1 should be extended to April 30, 1982.

Date: **AUG 3 1981**

* SEE PREVIOUS PAGE FOR CONCURRENCES

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