

January 30, 1992

Docket Nos: 50-373
and 50-374

Mr. Thomas J. Kovach
Nuclear Licensing Manager
Commonwealth Edison Company-Suite 300
OPUS West III
1400 OPUS Place
Downers Grove, Illinois 60515

Dear Mr. Kovach:

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SUBJECT: ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENTS (TAC NOS. M80640 AND M80641)

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 82 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-11 and Amendment No. 66 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-18 for the LaSalle County Station, Units 1 and 2, respectively. The amendments are in response to your application dated June 12, 1991.

The amendments revise the specific gravity requirements in the Technical Specifications for the engineered safety features (ESF) Division III 125 volt DC batteries.

A copy of the Safety Evaluation is also enclosed. The Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's biweekly Federal Register notice.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

Byron L. Siegel, Project Manager
Project Directorate III-2
Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV/V
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosures:

1. Amendment No. 82 to NPF-11
2. Amendment No. 66 to NPF-18
3. Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosures:
See next page

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY
DOCUMENT NAME: [AMENDMENT 80640/41]

LA/PDIII-2 CMoore 1/11/92	PE/PDIII-2 RElliott:rc 1/21/92	PM/PDIII-2 BSiegel 1/21/92	PD/PDIII-2 RBarrett 1/29/92	PD/SELB FRosa 1/21/92	OGC-WF1 1/22/92
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PDR ADOCK 05000373
P PDR

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

COMMONWEALTH EDISON COMPANY

DOCKET NO. 50-373

LASALLE COUNTY STATION, UNIT 1

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 82
License No. NPF-11

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
 - A. The application for amendment filed by the Commonwealth Edison Company (the licensee) dated June 12, 1991, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
 - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the regulations of the Commission;
 - C. There is reasonable assurance: (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
 - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
 - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.
2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the enclosure to this license amendment and paragraph 2.C.(2) of the Facility Operating License No. NPF-11 is hereby amended to read as follows:

9202100064 920130
PDR ADOCK 05000373
P PDR

Mr. Thomas J. Kovach
Commonwealth Edison Company

LaSalle County Station
Units Nos. 1 and 2

cc:

Phillip P. Steptoe, Esquire
Sidley and Austin
One First National Plaza
Chicago, Illinois 60603

Robert Cushing
Chief, Public Utilities Division
Illinois Attorney General's Office
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Assistant Attorney General
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Michael I. Miller, Esq.
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Resident Inspector/LaSalle, NPS
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Rural Route No. 1
P. O. Box 224
Marseilles, Illinois 61341

Chairman
LaSalle County Board of Supervisors
LaSalle County Courthouse
Cttawa, Illinois 61350

Attorney General
500 South 2nd Street
Springfield, Illinois 62701

Chairman
Illinois Commerce Commission
Leland Building
527 East Capitol Avenue
Springfield, Illinois 62706

Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety
Office of Nuclear Facility Safety
1035 Cuter Park Drive
Springfield, Illinois 62704

Regional Administrator, Region III
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
799 Roosevelt Road, Bldg. #4
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137

Robert Neumann
Office of Public Counsel
State of Illinois Center
100 W. Randolph
Suite 11-300
Chicago, Illinois 60601

(2) Technical Specifications and Environmental Protection Plan

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 82, and the Environmental Protection Plan contained in Appendix B, are hereby incorporated in the license. The licensee shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications and the Environmental Protection Plan.

3. This amendment is effective upon date of issuance to be implemented prior to startup after the unit's next refueling outage.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Richard J. Barrett, Director
Project Directorate III-2
Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV/V
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment:
Changes to the Technical
Specifications

Date of Issuance: January 30, 1992

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 82

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-11

DOCKET NO. 50-373

Replace the following pages of the Appendix "A" Technical Specifications with the enclosed pages. The revised pages are identified by amendment number and contain a vertical line indicating the area of change.

REMOVE

3/4 8-18

INSERT

3/4 8-18



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

COMMONWEALTH EDISON COMPANY

DOCKET NO. 50-374

LASALLE COUNTY STATION, UNIT 2

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 66
License No. NPF-18

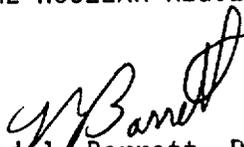
1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
 - A. The application for amendment filed by the Commonwealth Edison Company (the licensee) dated June 12, 1991, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
 - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the regulations of the Commission;
 - C. There is reasonable assurance: (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
 - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
 - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.
2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the enclosure to this license amendment and paragraph 2.C.(2) of the Facility Operating License No. NPF-18 is hereby amended to read as follows:

(2) Technical Specifications and Environmental Protection Plan

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 66 , and the Environmental Protection Plan contained in Appendix B, are hereby incorporated in the license. The licensee shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications and the Environmental Protection Plan.

3. This amendment is effective upon date of issuance to be implemented prior to startup after the unit's next refueling outage.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION


Richard J. Barrett, Director
Project Directorate III-2
Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV/V
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment:
Changes to the Technical
Specifications

Date of Issuance: January 30, 1992

ELECTRICAL POWER SYSTEMS

TABLE 4.8.2.3.2-1

BATTERY SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS

Parameter	CATEGORY A ⁽¹⁾	CATEGORY B ⁽²⁾	
	Limits for each designated pilot cell	Limits for each connected cell	Allowable ⁽³⁾ value for each connected cell
Electrolyte Level	>Minimum level indication mark and $\leq \frac{1}{4}$ " above maximum level indication mark	>Minimum level indication mark, and $\leq \frac{1}{4}$ " above maximum level indication mark	Above top of plates, and not overflowing
Float Voltage	≥ 2.13 volts	≥ 2.13 volts ^(c)	> 2.07 volts
Specific Gravity ^(a)	≥ 1.200 ^(b)	≥ 1.195	Not more than .020 below the average of all connected cells
		Average of all connected cells > 1.205	Average of all connected cells ≥ 1.195 ^(b)

(a) Corrected for electrolyte temperature and level.

(b) Or battery charging current is less than 2 amperes when on float charge.

(c) May be corrected for average electrolyte temperature.

(1) For any Category A parameter(s) outside the limit(s) shown, the battery may be considered OPERABLE provided that within 24 hours all the Category B measurements are taken and found to be within their allowable values, and provided all Category A and B parameter(s) are restored to within limits within the next 7 days.

(2) For any Category B parameter(s) outside the limit(s) shown, the battery may be considered OPERABLE provided that the Category B parameters are within their allowable values and provided the Category B parameter(s) are restored to within limits within 7 days.

(3) Any Category B parameter not within its allowable value indicates an inoperable battery.

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 66

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-18

DOCKET NO. 50-374

Replace the following pages of the Appendix "A" Technical Specifications with the enclosed pages. The revised pages are identified by amendment number and contain a vertical line indicating the area of change.

REMOVE

3/4 8-18

INSERT

3/4 8-18

TABLE 4.8.2.3.2-1

BATTERY SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS

Parameter	CATEGORY A ⁽¹⁾	CATEGORY B ⁽²⁾	
	Limits for each designated pilot cell	Limits for each connected cell	Allowable ⁽³⁾ value for each connected cell
Electrolyte Level	>Minimum level indication mark and $\leq \frac{1}{4}$ " above maximum level indication mark	>Minimum level indication mark, and $\leq \frac{1}{4}$ " above maximum level indication mark	Above top of plates, and not overflowing
Float Voltage	≥ 2.13 volts	≥ 2.13 volts ^(c)	> 2.07 volts
Specific Gravity ^(a)	≥ 1.200 ^(b)	≥ 1.195	Not more than .020 below the average of all connected cells
		Average of all connected cells > 1.205	Average of all connected cells ≥ 1.195 ^(b)

(a) Corrected for electrolyte temperature and level.

(b) Or battery charging current is less than 2 amperes when on float charge.

(c) May be corrected for average electrolyte temperature.

(1) For any Category A parameter(s) outside the limit(s) shown, the battery may be considered OPERABLE provided that within 24 hours all the Category B measurements are taken and found to be within their allowable values, and provided all Category A and B parameter(s) are restored to within limits within the next 7 days.

(2) For any Category B parameter(s) outside the limit(s) shown, the battery may be considered OPERABLE provided that the Category B parameters are within their allowable values and provided the Category B parameter(s) are restored to within limits within 7 days.

(3) Any Category B parameter not within its allowable value indicates an inoperable battery.



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 82 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-11 AND
AMENDMENT NO. 66 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-18

COMMONWEALTH EDISON COMPANY

LASALLE COUNTY STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2

DOCKET NOS. 50-373 AND 50-374

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated June 12, 1991, Commonwealth Edison Company (CECo, the licensee) submitted a Technical Specification (TS) amendment request to change the TS specific gravity limits for the engineered safety features (ESF) Division III 125 volt DC batteries for the LaSalle County Station, Units 1 and 2. The request is due to the station's plans to replace their existing Division III batteries during each unit's next refueling outage with similar batteries made by another manufacturer. The existing Division III batteries are Lead-Antimony type. The replacement batteries will be Lead-Calcium type. The manufacturer of the new batteries recommends maintaining a different electrolyte specific gravity than is currently maintained for the existing Division III batteries. The reason for the battery replacement is the station is having difficulty obtaining replacement cells for the existing batteries because the original manufacturer is no longer making them.

2.0 DISCUSSION

CECo's submittal proposes to amend the specific gravity requirements listed in Table 4.8.2.3.2-1 for each unit. The table provides the Category A (weekly) and Category B (quarterly) surveillance requirements for demonstrating operability of all three divisions of batteries. Category A surveillances are performed on designated pilot cells only. Category B surveillances are performed on all individual cells. The parameters which are monitored during the weekly and quarterly surveillances are electrolyte level, float voltage, and specific gravity of the battery electrolyte. Verification of these battery characteristics is performed in order to ensure that the batteries are operable and capable of performing their safety function. In addition, the table has an allowable value column which allows operation with a cell's parameter outside the normal Category A and Category B limits as long as the cell is within the allowable values and the parameter is restored within normal limits within 7 days.

The new Division III batteries have a nominal specific gravity of 1.215 at 77 degrees Fahrenheit versus the existing batteries which have a nominal specific gravity of 1.210 at 77 degrees Fahrenheit. The existing Division I and Division II batteries have a nominal specific gravity of 1.215 at 77 degrees Fahrenheit which is the same as the new Division III batteries.

The current battery specific gravity surveillance requirements in Table 4.8.2.3.2-1 are as follows:

1. Divisions I and II

Category A - each designated pilot cell shall have a specific gravity greater than or equal to 1.200 or the battery float charge current shall be less than 2 amperes.

Category B - each connected cell shall have a specific gravity greater than or equal to 1.195 and the average of all connected cells shall be greater than 1.205.

Allowable - no connected cell can have a specific gravity more than .020 below the average of all connected cells and either the average of all connected cells shall be greater than or equal to 1.195 or the battery float charge current shall be less than 2 amperes.

2. Division III

Category A - each designated pilot cell shall have a specific gravity greater than or equal to 1.195 or the battery float charge current shall be less than 2 amperes.

Category B - each connected cell shall have a specific gravity greater than or equal to 1.190 and the average of all connected cells shall be greater than 1.200.

Allowable - no connected cell can have a specific gravity more than .020 below the average of all connected cells and either the average of all connected cells shall be greater than or equal to 1.190 or the battery float charge current shall be less than 2 amperes.

The licensee's proposal is to remove the separate requirements for the Division III batteries and make the requirements for the Division I and Division II batteries applicable to all three divisions.

3.0 EVALUATION

The nominal specific gravity for the new batteries being installed by the licensee is 1.215 at 77 degrees Fahrenheit versus the existing batteries which have a nominal specific gravity of 1.210 at 77 degrees Fahrenheit. This means that the current specific gravity values specified in Table 4.8.2.3.2-1 for Category A limits, Category B limits, and for the allowable values for each connected cell are non-conservative since they are lower than will be required for maintaining an adequate charge in the new replacement batteries. As shown above, the Division I and Division II batteries (both are Lead-Calcium type) have identical requirements and the Division III batteries have a separate set of requirements. The new replacement Division III batteries have the same nominal specific gravity ratings and are the same type as the current Division I and Division II batteries. Based on this, the staff finds the licensee's proposal to remove the separate requirements for the Division III batteries and make the requirements the same for all three divisions to be acceptable.

4.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the Illinois State official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendments. The State official had no comments.

5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendments change a requirement with respect to the installation or use of a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. The NRC staff has determined that the amendments involve no significant increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types, of any effluents that may be released offsite, and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The Commission has previously issued a proposed finding that the amendments involve no significant hazards consideration, and there has been no public comment on such finding (56 FR 31431). Accordingly, the amendments meet the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b), no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendments.

6.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendments will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributor: R. Elliott

Date: January 30, 1992