

Docket No.: 50-382

March 21, 1986

Mr. R. S. Leddick
Senior Vice President - Nuclear Operations
Louisiana Power and Light Company
317 Baronne St., Mail Unit 17
New Orleans, Louisiana 70160

Dear Mr. Leddick:

Subject: Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact -
Appendix J Exemptions

I am enclosing the subject notice which relates to your submittal dated February 19, 1986, as supplemented by letter dated February 27, 1986, requesting an exemption from certain requirements of Appendix J to 10 CFR Part 50.

This notice is being forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

15/

James H. Wilson, Project Manager
PWR Project Directorate No. 7
Division of PWR Licensing-B

Enclosure:
As stated

cc: See next page

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

LOUISIANA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

DOCKET NO. 50-382

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF

NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an exemption from certain testing requirements of Appendix J to 10 CFR Part 50 to Louisiana Power & Light Company (LP&L) (the licensee) for Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit No. 3 located at the licensee's site in St. Charles Parish, Louisiana.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of Proposed Action:

The proposed action would grant an exemption from certain requirements of Appendix J to 10 CFR Part 50 for type B and C testing of certain valves, vents, drains and penetrations which maintain containment integrity at design bases accident conditions. The exemption is strictly schedular in that it would allow an approximately eight-month extension of the two-year test interval for the above components required by Appendix J until the first refueling outage.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The licensee completed its previous type B and C testing on April 22, 1984 in anticipation of plant licensing. However, due to a eight-month delay in licensing to December 18, 1984 coupled with a mid-cycle two-month outage for turbine repairs, the first refueling shutdown has been extended to approximately December, 1986. This would cause LP&L to exceed the two-year test interval required by Appendix J for type B and C testing of certain components.

Environmental Impact of the Proposed Action:

The proposed exemption affects only the interval between the tests of certain

components required to assure containment integrity. Because the operational period of these components will be shortened due to the aforementioned eight-month licensing delay and two-month turbine outage, the operational challenge to these components has been less than usually occurs in the two-year test interval. Thus, post-accident radiological releases would not differ from those determined previously and the proposed exemption does not otherwise affect facility radiological effluent or occupational exposures. With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed exemption does not affect plant nonradiological effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes there are no measurable radiological or nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed exemption.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action:

Since the Commission has concluded there is no measurable environmental impact associated with the proposed exemption, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impact need not be evaluated. The principal alternative to the exemption would be to require rigid compliance with the Appendix J requirements. Such action would not enhance the protection of the environment and would result in unjustified costs.

Alternative Use of Resources:

This action does not involve the use of resources not considered previously in the Final Environmental Statement for Waterford Unit 3.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

The NRC staff reviewed the licensee's request and did not consult other agencies or persons.

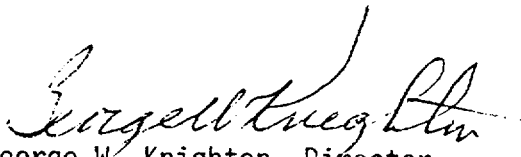
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed exemption. Based upon the environmental assessment, the NRC 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 proposed action, see the licensee's letters dated February 19, 1986 and February 27, 1986. These letters are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. and at the University of New Orleans Library, Louisiana Collection, Lakefront, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland, this 21st day of March, 1986.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION


George W. Knighton, Director
PWR Project Directorate No. 7
Division of PWR Licensing-B