

Docket

Docket No. 50-445

August 27, 1992

Mr. William J. Cahill, Jr.
Group Vice President, Nuclear
TU Electric
400 North Olive Street, L.B. 81
Dallas, Texas 75201

Dear Mr. Cahill:

SUBJECT: COMANCHE PEAK STEAM ELECTRIC STATION (CPSES) EMERGENCY RESPONSE DATA
SYSTEM (ERDS) IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE (TAC NO. M83829)

By letter dated June 1, 1992, TU Electric requested an exemption from the requirements of Appendix E of 10 CFR 50 to allow TU Electric to defer installation of its Emergency Response Data System (ERDS).

Appendix E, Section VI(4)(d) of 10 CFR 50 requires each licensee to install ERDS by February 13, 1993. TU Electric requested to delay implementation until February 13, 1994, because of a planned replacement of its Unit 1 computer system. The computer replacement will be completed during the third refueling outage (1RF03) scheduled during the fourth quarter of 1993. We have reviewed the request and agree that the cost of installing ERDS on the current computer system would be redundant to the cost of installation on the new computer.

The Commission has granted this exemption pursuant to 10 CFR 50.12. A copy of the exemption is enclosed and is being forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

Suzanne C. Black, Director
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV/V
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
Exemption

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

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Mr. William J. Cahill, Jr.

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August 27, 1992

cc w/enclosure:

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Honorable Dale McPherson
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P. O. Box 851
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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of)	
)	
TU ELECTRIC UTILITIES COMPANY)	Docket No. 50-445
)	
(Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station,)	
Unit 1)		

EXEMPTION

I.

The Texas Utilities Electric Company (TU Electric) is the holder of Facility Operating License No. NPF-87, which authorizes operation of the Comanche Peak Unit 1 reactor at a steady-state power level not in excess of 3425 megawatts thermal. The facility is a pressurized water reactor located at the licensee's site in Somervell County, Texas. This license provides, among other things, that the facility is subject to all rules, regulations, and orders of the Commission.

II.

Section VI(4)(d) of Appendix E to 10 CFR 50, states that "Each licensee shall complete implementation of the ERDS [Emergency Response Data System] by February 13, 1993, or before initial escalation to full power, whichever comes later."

By letter dated June 1, 1992, the licensee requested a schedular exemption from the requirements of Section VI(4)(d) of Appendix E. The licensee stated that they planned a replacement of the Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station, Unit 1 computer system during the third refueling outage scheduled during the fourth quarter of 1993.

III.

The licensee's request for a schedular exemption from the requirement of Appendix E to 10 CFR 50 Section VI(4)(d) is based on a planned change-out of the computer system which drives the ERDS. The change-out is to be completed by fourth quarter of 1993. The licensee states that if the exemption is not granted, it would be required to install two different ERDS for the same reactor within one year, and that this would result in redundant and unnecessary costs.

The purpose of the rule requiring installation of ERDS is to assure that all power reactors, except for Big Rock Point, install an ERDS in a timely manner. The licensee stated that it will install an ERDS within four months after installation of a new computer, thus it will comply with the intent of the regulation. The ERDS is informational only, and does not affect plant safety.

For these reasons, we conclude that granting a schedular exemption from Appendix E, Section VI(4)(d) of 10 CFR 50 will relieve the licensee from unnecessary hardship and redundant costs of installing and testing two ERDS systems within one year. Therefore, the licensee's request is granted.

IV.

Accordingly, the Commission has determined that, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.12(a)(1), this exemption is authorized by law, will not present an undue risk to the public health and safety, and is consistent with the common defense and security. The Commission further determines that special circumstances, as provided in 10 CFR 50.12(a)(2)(iii), are present justifying the exemption. The exemption would provide only temporary relief from the applicable regulation in that the licensee has extended the installation of the ERDS to allow replacement of its Unit 1 computer system.


Accordingly, the Commission hereby grants an exemption as described in Section III above from Appendix E, Section VI(d)(4) of 10 CFR Part 50 to extend the completion date of the ERDS.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.32, the Commission has determined that the granting of the Exemption will have no significant impact on the environment (57 FR38884).

This Exemption is effective upon issuance.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 27th day of August 1992

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Bruce A. Boger", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Bruce A. Boger, Director
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV/V
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation