

Docket

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

COMMONWEALTH EDISON COMPANY

DOCKET NOS. 50-456 AND 50-457

NOTICE OF ISSUANCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License Nos. NPF-72 and NPF-77 issued to Commonwealth Edison Company (the licensee), for operation of Braidwood Station, Units 1 and 2, located in Will County, Illinois.

Identification of Proposed Action:

The amendment would consist of changes to the Technical Specifications (TS) and would authorize an increase of the storage capacity of the spent fuel pool from 1060 fuel assemblies to 2870 fuel assemblies.

The amendment to the TS is responsive to the licensee's application dated January 3, 1989 as supplemented January 24 and February 10, 1989. The NRC staff has prepared an Environmental Assessment of the Proposed Action, "Environmental Assessment by the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation Relating to the Expansion of the Spent Fuel Pool, Facility Operating License Nos. NPF-72 and NPF-77, Commonwealth Edison Company, Braidwood Station, Units 1 and 2, Docket Nos. 50-456 and 50-457, dated July 13, 1989.

Summary of Environmental Assessment:

The "Final Generic Environmental Impact Statement (FGEIS) on Handling and Storage of Spent Light Water Power Reactor Fuel" (NUREG-0575), Volumes 1-3, (1979), concluded that the environmental impact of interim storage of spent fuel

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was negligible and the cost of the various alternatives reflects the advantage of continued generation of nuclear power with the accompanying spent fuel storage. Because of the differences in design, the FGEIS recommended evaluating spent fuel pool expansions on a case-by-case basis.

For Braidwood Station, Units 1 and 2, the expansion of the storage capacity of the spent fuel pool will not create any significant additional radiological effects or non-radiological environmental impacts beyond those assessed in the Commission's Final Environmental Statement related to operation of Braidwood Station, Units 1 and 2, NUREG-1026, June 1984.

The occupational radiation dose for the proposed operation of the expanded spent fuel pool is estimated to be less than one percent of the total annual occupational radiation exposure for this facility.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The staff has reviewed the proposed spent fuel pool expansion to the facility relative to the requirements set forth in 10 CFR Part 51. Based on this assessment, the staff concludes that there are no significant radiological or non-radiological impacts associated with the proposed action and that the issuance of the proposed amendment to the license will have no significant impact on the quality of the human environment. Therefore, pursuant to 10 CFR 51.31, no environmental impact statement needs to be prepared for this action.

For further details with respect to this action, see (1) the application for amendment to the Technical Specifications dated January 3, 1989 as supplemented January 24, and February 10, 1989; (2) the FGEIS on Handling and Storage of Spent Light Water Power Reactor Fuel (NUREG-0575), (3) the Final Environmental Statement for Braidwood Station, Units 1 and 2, dated

June 1984, and (4) the Environmental Assessment dated July 13, 1989. These documents are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20555 and at the Wilmington Township Public Library, 201 S. Kankakee Street, Wilmington, Illinois 60481.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 13th day of July 1989.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul C. Shemanski".

Paul C. Shemanski, Acting Director
Project Directorate III-2
Division of Reactor Projects - III,
IV, V and Special Projects

June 1984, and (4) the Environmental Assessment dated July 13, 1989. These documents are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20555 and at the Wilmington Township Public Library, 201 S. Kankakee Street, Wilmington, Illinois 60481.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 13th day of July 1989.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Paul C. Shemanski, Acting Director
Project Directorate III-2
Division of Reactor Projects - III,
IV, V and Special Projects

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Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this of

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Paul C. Shemanski

Paul C. Shemanski, Acting Director
Project Directorate III-2
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