

5/3/96

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
THE CLEVELAND ELECTRIC ILLUMINATING COMPANY, ET AL.  
DOCKET NO. 50-440  
NOTICE OF CONSIDERATION OF ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT TO  
FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE, PROPOSED NO SIGNIFICANT HAZARDS  
CONSIDERATION DETERMINATION, AND OPPORTUNITY FOR A HEARING

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. NPF-58 issued to The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, et al. (the licensee), for operation of the Perry Nuclear Power Plant, Unit No. 1 located in Lake County, Ohio.

The proposed amendment would correct minor technical and administrative errors in the Improved Technical Specifications (ITS) prior to ITS implementation.

Before issuance of the proposed license amendment, the Commission will have made findings required by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act) and the Commission's regulations.

The Commission has made a proposed determination that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration. Under the Commission's regulations in 10 CFR 50.92, this means that operation of the facility in accordance with the proposed amendment would not (1) involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated; or (2) create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated; or (3) involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety. As required by 10 CFR 50.91(a), the licensee

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has provided its analysis of the issue of no significant hazards consideration, which is presented below:

1. The proposed changes do not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated.

Eight of the proposed changes are administrative in nature and either correct errors or incorporate into the improved Technical Specifications a change which was approved by the NRC under Amendment 70 for the current Technical Specifications. Changing the classification of the Backup Hydrogen Purge System isolation valves from drywell isolation valves to primary containment isolation valves results in the same actions being taken in the event one of these valves is declared inoperable. However, the Completion Times are more restrictive for inoperable primary containment isolation valves than for inoperable drywell isolation valves. The proposed changes to the diesel generator fuel oil day tank minimum volumes provide more stringent requirements for operation of the facility to increase the reliability of the diesel generator fuel oil transfer pump operation. The more stringent requirements continue to ensure that the safety analysis and licensing basis are maintained. The proposed change to Specification 5.7.3 clarifies continuously guarding a high radiation area is an option, not a requirement. The proposed changes have been reviewed and determined to have no effect on accident conditions or assumptions.

Based on the above, the proposed changes do not significantly increase the probability or consequences of any accident previously evaluated.

2. The proposed changes do not create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated.

As stated above eight of the proposed changes are administrative in nature and do not increase the possibility of any new or different kind of accident. Changing the classification of the Backup Hydrogen Purge System isolation valves from drywell isolation valves to primary containment isolation valves results in the same actions being taken in the event one of these valves is declared inoperable. However, the Completion Times are more restrictive for inoperable primary containment isolation valves than for inoperable drywell isolation valves. The proposed changes to the diesel generator fuel oil day tank minimum volumes do not involve installation of new or different equipment nor do they change the methods governing normal plant operations. These changes are also consistent with assumptions made in the safety analysis and licensing basis. Clarifying the controls of high radiation areas will not impact existing or introduce any new accident precursors. The proposed changes do not create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident since they do not affect the reactor coolant pressure boundary or reactivity controls. Consequently, no new failure modes are introduced as a result of the proposed changes.

Therefore, the proposed changes do not create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any previously evaluated.

3. The proposed changes do not involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety.

The margin of safety is unchanged because the proposed administrative changes do not affect any design basis or accident assumptions. Changing the classification of the Backup Hydrogen Purge System isolation valves from drywell isolation valves to primary containment isolation valves results in the same actions being taken in the event one of these valves is declared inoperable. However, the Completion Times are more restrictive for inoperable primary containment isolation valves than for inoperable drywell isolation valves. The imposition of more restrictive requirements for the diesel generator fuel oil day tank minimum volumes results from the implementation of the Bases for the Technical Specification Surveillance Requirement. Clarifying the controls of high radiation areas is consistent with ALARA practices.

Therefore, the proposed changes do not involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety.

The NRC staff has reviewed the licensee's analysis and, based on this review, it appears that the three standards of 10 CFR 50.92(c) are satisfied. Therefore, the NRC staff proposes to determine that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration.

The Commission is seeking public comments on this proposed determination. Any comments received within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice will be considered in making any final determination.

Normally, the Commission will not issue the amendment until the expiration of the 30-day notice period. However, should circumstances change during the notice period such that failure to act in a timely way would result, for example, in preventing startup of the facility, the Commission may issue the license amendment before the expiration of the 30-day notice period, provided that its final determination is that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration. The final determination will consider all

public and State comments received. Should the Commission take this action, it will publish in the FEDERAL REGISTER a notice of issuance and provide for opportunity for a hearing after issuance. The Commission expects that the need to take this action will occur very infrequently.

Written comments may be submitted by mail to the Rules Review and Directives Branch, Division of Freedom of Information and Publications Services, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, and should cite the publication date and page number of this FEDERAL REGISTER notice. Written comments may also be delivered to Room 6D22, Two White Flint North, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Federal workdays. Copies of written comments received may be examined at the NRC Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC.

The filing of requests for hearing and petitions for leave to intervene is discussed below.

By June 10, 1996, the licensee may file a request for a hearing with respect to issuance of the amendment to the subject facility operating license and any person whose interest may be affected by this proceeding and who wishes to participate as a party in the proceeding must file a written request for a hearing and a petition for leave to intervene. Requests for a hearing and a petition for leave to intervene shall be filed in accordance with the Commission's "Rules of Practice for Domestic Licensing Proceedings" in 10 CFR Part 2. Interested persons should consult a current copy of 10 CFR 2.714 which is available at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room located at the Perry Public Library, 3753 Main Street, Perry, Ohio. If a

request for a hearing or petition for leave to intervene is filed by the above date, the Commission or an Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, designated by the Commission or by the Chairman of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel, will rule on the request and/or petition; and the Secretary or the designated Atomic Safety and Licensing Board will issue a notice of hearing or an appropriate order.

As required by 10 CFR 2.714, a petition for leave to intervene shall set forth with particularity the interest of the petitioner in the proceeding, and how that interest may be affected by the results of the proceeding. The petition should specifically explain the reasons why intervention should be permitted with particular reference to the following factors: (1) the nature of the petitioner's right under the Act to be made party to the proceeding; (2) the nature and extent of the petitioner's property, financial, or other interest in the proceeding; and (3) the possible effect of any order which may be entered in the proceeding on the petitioner's interest. The petition should also identify the specific aspect(s) of the subject matter of the proceeding as to which petitioner wishes to intervene. Any person who has filed a petition for leave to intervene or who has been admitted as a party may amend the petition without requesting leave of the Board up to 15 days prior to the first prehearing conference scheduled in the proceeding, but such an amended petition must satisfy the specificity requirements described above.

Not later than 15 days prior to the first prehearing conference scheduled in the proceeding, a petitioner shall file a supplement to the petition to intervene which must include a list of the contentions which are sought to be litigated in the matter. Each contention must consist of a specific statement of the issue of law or fact to be raised or controverted.

In addition, the petitioner shall provide a brief explanation of the bases of the contention and a concise statement of the alleged facts or expert opinion which support the contention and on which the petitioner intends to rely in proving the contention at the hearing. The petitioner must also provide references to those specific sources and documents of which the petitioner is aware and on which the petitioner intends to rely to establish those facts or expert opinion. Petitioner must provide sufficient information to show that a genuine dispute exists with the applicant on a material issue of law or fact. Contentions shall be limited to matters within the scope of the amendment under consideration. The contention must be one which, if proven, would entitle the petitioner to relief. A petitioner who fails to file such a supplement which satisfies these requirements with respect to at least one contention will not be permitted to participate as a party.

Those permitted to intervene become parties to the proceeding, subject to any limitations in the order granting leave to intervene, and have the opportunity to participate fully in the conduct of the hearing, including the opportunity to present evidence and cross-examine witnesses.

If a hearing is requested, the Commission will make a final determination on the issue of no significant hazards consideration. The final determination will serve to decide when the hearing is held.

If the final determination is that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration, the Commission may issue the amendment and make it immediately effective, notwithstanding the request for a hearing. Any hearing held would take place after issuance of the amendment.

If the final determination is that the amendment request involves a significant hazards consideration, any hearing held would take place before the issuance of any amendment.

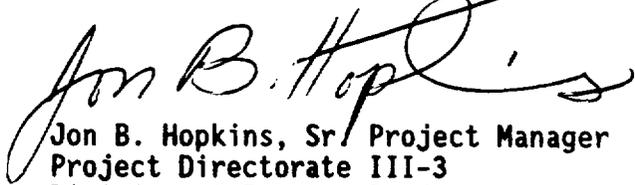
A request for a hearing or a petition for leave to intervene must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, Attention: Docketing and Services Branch, or may be delivered to the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, by the above date. Where petitions are filed during the last 10 days of the notice period, it is requested that the petitioner promptly so inform the Commission by a toll-free telephone call to Western Union at 1-(800) 248-5100 (in Missouri 1-(800) 342-6700). The Western Union operator should be given Datagram Identification Number N1023 and the following message addressed to Gail H. Marcus: petitioner's name and telephone number, date petition was mailed, plant name, and publication date and page number of this FEDERAL REGISTER notice. A copy of the petition should also be sent to the Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, and to Jay E. Silberg, Shaw, Pittman, Potts & Trowbridge, 2300 N Street, NW., Washington, DC 20037, attorney for the licensee.

Nontimely filings of petitions for leave to intervene, amended petitions, supplemental petitions and/or requests for hearing will not be entertained absent a determination by the Commission, the presiding officer or the presiding Atomic Safety and Licensing Board that the petition and/or request should be granted based upon a balancing of the factors specified in 10 CFR 2.714(a)(1)(i)-(v) and 2.714(d).

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated April 26, 1996, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room located at the Perry Public Library, 3753 Main Street, Perry, Ohio.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 3rd day of May 1996.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jon B. Hopkins, Sr." The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Jon B. Hopkins, Sr. Project Manager  
Project Directorate III-3  
Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

May 3, 1996

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For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated April 26, 1996, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room located at the Perry Public Library, 3753 Main Street, Perry, Ohio.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 3rd day of May 1996.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

(original signed by)

Jon B. Hopkins, Sr. Project Manager  
Project Directorate III-3  
Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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