

7590-01

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

KANSAS GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY

DOCKET NO.: 50-482

NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of a partial exemption from the requirements of Appendix J to 10 CFR Part 50 to the Kansas Gas and Electric Company (the licensee) for the Wolf Creek Generating Station, Unit 1 located at the licensee's site in Coffey County Kansas.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

Identification of Proposed Action: The exemption would eliminate the full pressure test required by paragraph III.D.2(b)(ii) of Appendix J normal air lock opening and substitute a seal leakage test to be conducted at a pressure specified in the Technical Specifications. The proposed exemption is in accordance with the licensee's request dated November 6, 1984.

The need for the Proposed Action: The proposed exemption is required to provide the licensee with greater plant availability over the lifetime of the plant.

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Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action: The proposed exemption grants the substitution of an airlock seal test for an airlock pressure test while the reactor is in a shutdown or refueling mode. With respect to this exemption from Appendix J, the increment of environmental impact is related solely to the potential increased probability of containment leakage during an accident. This could lead to higher offsite and control room doses. However, this potential increase is very small, due to the added seal leakage tests and the protection against excessive leakage afforded by the other tests required by Appendix-J.

Alternative to the Proposed Action: Because the staff has concluded that there is no measurable environmental impact associated with the proposed exemption, any alternative to these exemptions will have either no environmental impact or greater environmental impact.

The principal alternative would be to deny the requested exemption. This would not reduce environmental impacts of plant operations and would result in reduced operational flexibility and unwarranted delays in power ascension.

Alternative Use of Resources: This action does not involve the use of resources not previously considered in connection with the "Final Environmental Statement related to the operation of Wolf Creek Generating Station, Unit No. 1," dated June 1982.

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Agencies and Persons Consulted: The NRC staff reviewed the licensee's request that supports the proposed exemption. The NRC staff did not consult other agencies or persons.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

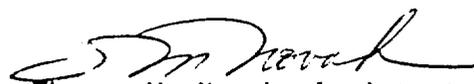
The Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed exemption.

Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, we conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

For further details with respect to this action, see the requests for the exemption dated November 6, 1984, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., and at the William Allen White Library, Emporia State University, 1200 Commercial Street, Emporia, Kansas.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of January 1985.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Thomas M. Novak, Assistant Director  
for Licensing  
Division of Licensing

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The Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed exemption.

Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, we conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

For further details with respect to this action, see the requests for the exemption dated November 6, 1984, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., and at the William Allen White Library, Emporia State University, 1200 Commercial Street, Emporia, Kansas.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland, this 4th day of January 1985.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Thomas M. Novak, Assistant Director  
for Licensing  
Division of Licensing

<i>fwot</i> DL:LB#1 PO'Connor 12/16/84	<i>gas</i> DL:LB#1 JStevens 12/18/84	<i>no need change</i> DL:LB#1 MRushbrook 12/19/84	<i>ST</i> OELD 12/21/84	<i>ml</i> DL:LB#1 BYoungblood 12/17/84	<i>AD-DL</i> TNovak 1/14/85
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