

DOCKET NO.: 70-36 36

LICENSEE: Combustion Engineering

FACILITY: Hematite, Missouri

SUBJECT: CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION FOR AMENDMENT OF LICENSE SNM-33 TO INCREASE THE U-235 ENRICHMENT LIMIT TO 5.0 PERCENT

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By letters dated December 28, 1987, April 29, 1988, and June 6, 1988, Combustion Engineering submitted for NRC review and approval an application for amendment of License No. SNM-33 to increase the U-235 enrichment limit from 4.1 to 5.0 percent. There will be no quantitative change in effluent discharge and only a slight change in qualitative aspects of effluent discharge. Therefore, no environmental compromises are involved. Criticality safety analyses by the licensee and NRC staff demonstrate that the present safety margin provided by limiting the k-effective of a unit or an array of units to <0.95 will continue to be maintained for the processing and storage of uranium enriched to 5.0 w/o. Thus, the increase in the uranium enrichment authorized for possession and use at the facility does not significantly increase the potential for a nuclear criticality accident. Accordingly, the staff has concluded that the following conditions have been met:

1. There is no significant change in the types or significant increase in the amounts of any effluents that may be released offsite,
2. There is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure,
3. There is no significant construction impact, and
4. There is no significant increase in the potential for or consequences from radiological accidents.

Therefore, in accordance with 10 CFR 51.22(c)(11), neither an Environmental Assessment nor an Environmental Impact Statement is warranted for this proposed action.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Leland C. Rouse, Chief
Fuel Cycle Safety Branch
Division of Industrial and
Medical Nuclear Safety, NMSS

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See previous concurrence

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71-63