

March 24, 2006

Mr. Gene St. Pierre, Site Vice President
c/o James M. Peschel
Seabrook Station
FPL Energy Seabrook, LLC
PO Box 300
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SUBJECT: SEABROOK STATION, UNIT NO. 1 - ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT RE:
SIX-MONTH EXTENSION FOR THE CONTAINMENT INTEGRATED LEAKAGE
RATE TEST INTERVAL (TAC NO. MC8549)

Dear Mr. St. Pierre:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 108 to Facility Operating License (FOL) No. NPF-86 for the Seabrook Station, Unit No. 1, in response to your application dated September 29, 2005.

The amendment revises the Seabrook Station, Unit No. 1 Technical Specifications to permit a one-time, 6-month, addition to the currently-approved 5-year extension to the 10-year test interval for the containment integrated leak rate test.

A copy of the related Safety Evaluation is also enclosed. Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's biweekly *Federal Register* notice.

Sincerely,

/RA/

G. Edward Miller, Project Manager
Project Directorate I-2
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-443

Enclosures:

1. Amendment No. 108 to FOL No. NPF-86
2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

Seabrook Station, Unit No. 1

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cc w/encls: See next page

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OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

FPL ENERGY SEABROOK, LLC, ET AL.*

DOCKET NO. 50-443

SEABROOK STATION, UNIT NO. 1

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 108
License No. NPF-86

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
 - A. The application for amendment filed by FPL Energy Seabrook, LLC, et al. (the licensee), dated September 29, 2005, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
 - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;
 - C. There is reasonable assurance: (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations;
 - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
 - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.

*FPL Energy Seabrook, LLC (FPLE Seabrook), is authorized to act as agent for the following: Hudson Light & Power Department, Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company, and Taunton Municipal Light Plant. FPLE Seabrook has exclusive responsibility and control over the physical construction, operation and maintenance of the facility.

2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment, and paragraph 2.C.(2) of Facility Operating License No. NPF-86 is hereby amended to read as follows:

(2) Technical Specifications

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 108, are hereby incorporated in the license. The licensee shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications and the Environmental Protection Plan.

3. This license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance and shall be implemented within 90 days of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

/RA/

Darrell J. Roberts, Chief
Project Directorate I-2
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment: Changes to the Technical
Specifications

Date of Issuance: March 24, 2006

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 108

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-86

DOCKET NO. 50-443

Replace the following page of the Appendix A Technical Specifications with the Attached revised page. The revised page is identified by amendment number and contains marginal lines indicating the areas of change.

Remove
6-22

Insert
6-22

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 108 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-86
FPL ENERGY SEABROOK, LLC
SEABROOK STATION, UNIT NO. 1
DOCKET NO. 50-443

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated September 29, 2005, FPL Energy Seabrook, LLC (FPLE or the licensee) submitted License Amendment Request (LAR) No. 05-06, requesting changes to the Technical Specifications (TSs) for Seabrook Station, Unit No. 1 (Seabrook). Specifically, the proposed amendment would permit a one-time, 6-month, addition to the currently approved 5-year extension to the 10-year test interval for the containment integrated leak rate test (ILRT). The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or the Commission) staff's proposed no significant hazards consideration determination was published in the *Federal Register* on November 8, 2005 (70 FR 67748).

2.0 REGULATORY EVALUATION

Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 50, Appendix J, Option B, requires that a Type A test be conducted at a periodic interval based on historical performance of the overall containment system. Seabrook TS 6.15, "Containment Leakage Rate Testing Program," requires that leakage rate testing be performed as required by 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix J, Option B, as modified by approved exemptions, and in accordance with the guidelines contained in Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.163, "Performance-Based Containment Leak-Test Program," dated September 1995, with two exceptions. Only one of the two exemptions is pertinent to LAR 05-06, and is discussed in more detail in the following paragraph. RG 1.163 endorses, with certain exceptions, Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) report NEI-94-01, Revision 0, "Industry Guideline for Implementing Performance-Based Option of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix J," dated July 26, 1995.

A Type A test is an overall (integrated) leakage rate test of the containment structure. NEI 94-01 specifies an initial test interval of 48 months, but allows an extended interval of 10 years, based upon two consecutive successful tests. The most recent two Type A tests at Seabrook have been successful, so the current interval requirement would normally be 10 years. However, by letter dated August 2, 2001, as supplemented on November 2, December 4, and December 19, 2001, and on January 7, 2002, FPLE requested a one-time extension of the test interval to 15 years. On April 11, 2002, the NRC staff granted this request via License Amendment No. 82 (available in the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) under accession number ML020530297).

The licensee is requesting a change to TS 6.15 which would alter their exception from the guidelines of RG 1.163 and NEI 94-01, Revision 0, by adding approximately six more months to the 5-year extension already in place, for a total interval of approximately 15 years and 6 months. Specifically, the exception states that the first Type A test performed after the October 1992, Type A test shall be prior to startup following Seabrook refueling outage (RFO) 12. RFO 12 is currently scheduled for the spring of 2008. The local leakage rate tests (LLRTs) (Type B and Type C), including their schedules, are not affected by this request.

3.0 TECHNICAL EVALUATION

In Amendment No. 82, the NRC approved a one-time extension of the containment ILRT interval to 15 years. This test interval extension was supported by a licensee risk assessment. The NRC staff's review of FPLE's risk assessment was documented in the safety evaluation report (SER) accompanying Amendment No. 82, and it concluded that the combined risk impact of the test interval extensions, in terms of total integrated plant risk, large early release frequency (LERF), and conditional containment failure probability, is small and supportive of the changes.

By letter dated September 29, 2005, the licensee requested that TS 6.15 regarding the Containment Leakage Rate Testing Program be amended to effectively allow a one-time extension of the ILRT interval from 15 years to approximately 15.5 years. The licensee performed a risk assessment of the impact of extending the ILRT test frequency from the original three tests in 10 years to one test in 25 years, and reported the risk results in LAR 05-06. The frequency of one test in 25 years was used to bound the impact of the requested 15.5 year interval. LAR 05-06 also included a sensitivity analysis similar to the one provided in support of License Amendment No. 82, on which the NRC staff based its prior acceptance of the 15-year test interval. The risk assessment and sensitivity analysis is based on the same methodology, input, and assumptions used to support License Amendment No. 82, with the exception of the revised test interval and the use of an updated version of the plant-specific probabilistic risk assessment.

Based on the analyses provided by the licensee, the risk impacts and risk comparisons for the proposed change are essentially unchanged from those reported in the previous SER, and the NRC staff conclusions remain valid. Specifically, the increase in the total integrated plant risk is small and supportive of the proposed change, the increase in the test interval results in only a small change in LERF consistent with the acceptance guidelines of RG 1.174, and the defense-in-depth philosophy is maintained based on the small magnitude of the change in the conditional containment failure probability.

Additionally, LAR 05-06 discussed the Seabrook local leak rate test program, which tests individual penetrations to the containment liner. Although this test does not measure containment integrity as comprehensively as the ILRT, it does provide a high level of confidence that the containment liner is intact and capable of performing its design function.

Based on the analyses provided by FPLE, the NRC staff finds that the increase in total integrated plant risk, large early release frequency, and conditional containment failure probability are very small and, therefore, supportive of the change. Additionally, the defense-in-depth philosophy is maintained based on the other diverse tests (such as the LLRTs) performed

to ensure the integrity of containment penetrations. Therefore, the NRC staff considers the addition of 6 months to the one-time 5-year extension to the 10-year containment ILRT to be acceptable.

4.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the New Hampshire and Massachusetts State officials were notified of the proposed issuance of the amendment. The State officials had no comments.

5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendment changes a surveillance requirement with respect to a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. The NRC staff has determined that the amendment involves no significant increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types, of any effluents that may be released offsite, and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The Commission has previously issued a proposed finding that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration, and there has been no public comment on such finding (70 FR 67748). Accordingly, the amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b), no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendment.

6.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributors: R. Palla
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Date: March 24, 2006