

February 24, 1975

EVALUATION OF REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF
PROVISIONAL CONSTRUCTION PERMIT NO. CPPR-62
FOR THE INDIAN POINT NUCLEAR GENERATING UNIT NO. 3
DOCKET NO. 50-286

Introduction

On January 18, 1974, Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc. (the applicant) requested an extension of the completion date for the construction of the Indian Point Nuclear Generating Unit No. 3. Previously, an Order was issued on August 14, 1972, which extended the construction completion date from September 1, 1972, to March 1, 1974. The applicant stated in its letter of January 18, 1974 that the completion of construction was estimated to be delayed from March 1, 1974 to August 1, 1974, and requested an extension of the completion date to March 1, 1975. On April 12, 1974, the applicant submitted additional information stating that the earliest possible completion date was estimated to be December 1, 1974, and restated its request for an extension of the completion date to March 1, 1975.

Discussion

In its letter of January 18, 1974, the applicant stated that the delay in the completion of construction was due to the following:

1. The problem of insufficient labor force continued to be felt in such essential trades as steamfitter welding.
2. The problem of delayed shipment of critical materials continued to be experienced until recently, for example, with regard to large pipe.
3. The problem of unexpected work resulting from design changes, such as the addition of a third battery, the addition of a third motor control center, and the redesign of the diesel fuel oil transfer system.

The applicant stated that it could not estimate what proportion of the delay is attributable to each of the causes, but that the aggregate delay from all of the causes was approximately nine months beyond the previously granted expiration date of March 1, 1974.

The applicant further stated that based on its past experience with construction schedule estimates, a further period of three months

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should be added to this period as a contingency to account for uncertainties and the limited accuracy with which future events can be predicted.

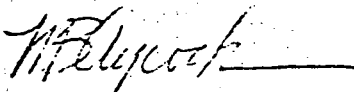
In a supplemental request submitted by the applicant on February 3, 1975, the applicant amended its previous request to extend the completion date. In lieu of the March 1, 1975 date, the applicant requested an extension until July 1, 1975 to complete construction. The applicant stated that the problems discussed above continue to be experienced. Initiation of fuel loading is scheduled for April 1975; however, the applicant requested a two-month contingency to allow for the possibility of further unanticipated delays.

Conclusions

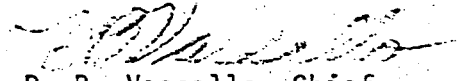
Based on our review of the applicant's statements, we conclude that the above factors are beyond the applicant's control, are reasonable, and that the applicant has shown good cause for the delay in completion of the construction. Based on our evaluation of the causes for the delay, including the period of time to allow for contingencies, we have determined that a period of sixteen months is a reasonable period of time to extend the completion date.

As a result of our review of the applicant's Final Safety Analysis Report to date and considering the nature of the delays, we have identified no area of significant safety considerations in connection with the extension of the construction permit completion date. In addition, we find that the only modification proposed by the applicant to the existing construction permit is an extension of the construction completion date which does not allow any work to be performed that is not already allowed by the existing construction permit. Therefore, we find that this action does not involve a significant hazards consideration, and that good cause exists for the issuance of an order extending the completion date.

Accordingly, issuance of an Order extending the latest completion date for the construction of the Indian Point Nuclear Generating Unit No. 3 as presently set forth in the August 14, 1972, Order related to Provisional Construction Permit No. CPPR-62, to July 1, 1975, is reasonable and should be authorized.



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