



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
SUPPORTING AMENDMENT NO. 9 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-18
ROCHESTER GAS AND ELECTRIC CORPORATION
R. E. GINNA NUCLEAR POWER PLANT
DOCKET NO. 50-244

1.0 INTRODUCTION

In November 1980, the staff issued NUREG-0737, "Clarification of TMI Action Plan Requirements," which included all TMI Action Plan items approved by the Commission for implementation at nuclear power reactors. NUREG-0737 identifies those items for which Technical Specifications (TS) are required. A number of items which require TS were scheduled for implementation after December 31, 1981. The staff provided guidance on the scope of TS for all of these items in Generic Letter 83-37. Generic Letter 83-37 was issued to all Pressurized Water Reactor (PWR) licensees on November 1, 1983. In this Generic Letter, the staff requested licensees to:

1. review their facility's TS to determine if they were consistent with the guidance provided in the Generic Letter, and
2. submit an application for a license amendment where deviations or absence of TS were found.

By letter dated September 14, 1984 and superseded on February 21, 1985, Rochester Gas and Electric Corporation (the licensee) responded to Generic Letter 83-37 by submitting a TS change request for the Ginna plant. This evaluation covers the following TMI Action Plan items:

1. Reactor Coolant System Vents (II.B.1)
2. Noble Gas Effluent Monitors (II.F.1.1)
3. Containment High-Range Radiation Monitor (II.F.1.3)
4. Containment Pressure Monitor (II.F.1.4)
5. Containment Water Level Monitor (II.F.1.5)
6. Containment Hydrogen Monitor (II.F.1.6)
7. Instrumentation for Detection of Inadequate Core Cooling (II.F.2)
8. Control Room Habitability Requirements (III.D.3.4)

A Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment to License and Proposed No Significant Hazards Consideration Determination and Opportunity for Hearing related to the requested action was published in the Federal Register on May 21, 1985 (50 FR 20987). No public comments or requests for hearing were received.

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2.0 EVALUATION

1. Reactor Coolant System Vents (II.B.1)

Our guidance for Reactor Coolant System (RCS) vents identified the need for at least one operable vent path at the reactor vessel head and the pressurizer steam space, for Westinghouse reactors. Generic Letter 83-37 also provided limiting conditions for operation and the surveillance requirements for the RCS vents. The licensee has proposed TS that are consistent with our guidance. Therefore, we find the proposed TS to be acceptable.

2. Noble Gas Effluent Monitors (II.F.1.1)

The licensee has supplemented the existing normal range monitors to provide noble gas monitoring in accordance with TMI Action Plan Item II.F.1.1. The proposed TS for Noble Gas Effluent Monitors meet the intent of the guidelines provided in Generic Letter 83-37. Therefore, we conclude that the TS for Item II.F.1.1 are acceptable.

3. Containment High-Range Radiation Monitor (II.F.1.3)

The licensee has installed two in-containment monitors in the Ginna plant that is consistent with the guidance of TMI Action Plan Item II.F.1.3. Generic Letter 83-37 provided guidance for limiting conditions for operation and surveillance requirements for these monitors. The licensee proposed TS that are consistent with the guidance provided in our Generic Letter 83-37. Therefore, we conclude that the proposed TS for Item II.F.1.3 are acceptable.

4. Containment Pressure Monitor (II.F.1.4)

The Ginna plant has been provided with two wide range channels for monitoring containment pressure following an accident. The licensee has proposed TS that are consistent with the guidelines contained in Generic Letter 83-37. Therefore, we conclude that the proposed TS for containment pressure monitor are acceptable.

5. Containment Water Level Monitor (II.F.1.5)

Narrow range and wide range containment water level monitors provide the capability required by TMI Action Plan Item II.F.1.5. The proposed TS contain limiting conditions for operation and surveillance requirements that meet the intent of the guidance contained in Generic Letter 83-37. Therefore, we conclude that the proposed TS for containment water level monitors are acceptable.

6. Containment Hydrogen Monitor (II.F.1.6)

The licensee installed containment hydrogen monitors that provide the capability required by TMI Action Plan Item II.F.1.6. The proposed TS contain appropriate limiting conditions for operation and surveillance requirements for these monitors. We conclude that the proposed TS are acceptable as they meet the intent of the guidance contained in Generic Letter 83-37.

7. Instrumentation for Detection of Inadequate Core Cooling (II.F.2)

Generic Letter 83-37 provided the guidance on TS for the subcooling margin monitors, a reactor coolant inventory tracking system and core exist thermocouples. The licensee has submitted the TS for the subcooling margin monitors and core exist thermocouples. We have reviewed the proposed TS for the subcooling margin monitors and core exit thermocouples and conclude that the proposed TS are acceptable as they are consistent with our guidance contained in Generic Letter 83-37.

8. Control Room Habitability (III.D.3.4)

The guidance of NUREG-0737 requires assurance on the part of the licensee that control room operators will be adequately protected against the effects of an accidental release of of toxic and/or radioactive gases from sources either onsite or offsite. Generic Letter 83-37 provided guidance on the toxic gas detection system, and a control room emergency air filtration system.

The licensee has proposed TS for the chlorine, ammonia, and radioactive gas detection systems. We have reviewed the proposed TS and conclude that the proposed TS are acceptable as they meet the intent of our guidance contained in Generic Letter 83-37. The TS for control room emergency air treatment system are already included in existing TS for the Ginna Plant.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

This amendment involves a change to a requirement with respect to the installation or use of a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20 and changes to the surveillance requirements. The 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 this amendment involves no significant hazards consideration and there has been no public comment on such finding. Accordingly, this 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 this amendment.

4.0 CONCLUSION

We have 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, and (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and the issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

5.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

C. Patel and C. Miller prepared this Safety. Evaluation.

Dated: July 30, 1985