



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION  
SUPPORTING AMENDMENT NO. 42 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-21  
WASHINGTON PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY SYSTEM  
WPPSS NUCLEAR PROJECT NO. 2  
DOCKET NO. 50-397

1.0 INTRODUCTION

In letters dated June 13 and 18, 1985 and October 7, 1986, the licensee proposed changes to delete a surveillance test of fuses required by the technical specifications. Current technical specifications require functionally testing a representative sample of each type of fuse on a rotating basis. The functional test shall consist of a nondestructive resistance measurement test which demonstrates that the fuse meets its manufacturer's design criteria. Fuses found inoperable during the functional testing shall be replaced with OPERABLE fuses prior to resuming operation.

2.0 EVALUATION

The fuses used as overcurrent protective devices in the primary containment penetration conductor have a basic design, simple construction and passive operation and are, therefore, reliable overcurrent protective devices. The periodic surveillance test is intended to detect the variance in resistance of the fuses. However, a small variance in the resistance of the fuses is not reliably determined by periodic surveillance testing and would not be indicative of a truly degraded condition. Additionally, any surveillance testing could involve removing and replacing fuses as would a replacement requirement. This could decrease reliability of the fuses by increasing the inherent resistance and by increasing the risk of procedural errors and fuse damage. Therefore, the surveillance testing of the fuses does not improve the reliability of the overcurrent protective device and also does not provide any added assurance of safe plant operation. Based on the above evaluation, the proposed change to delete the surveillance testing of fuses is acceptable.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

This amendment involves a change in the installation and use of facility components located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20 and changes in surveillance requirements. The staff has determined that this 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

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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 CONTACT WITH STATE OFFICIAL

The Commission made a proposed determination that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration which was published in the Federal Register (51 FR 41871) on November 19, 1986 and consulted with the State of Washington. No public comments were received, and the State of Washington did not have any comments.

#### 5.0 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.

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Dated: May 21, 1987

