

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



SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
SUPPORTING AMENDMENT NO. 66 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-21
WASHINGTON PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY SYSTEM
NUCLEAR PROJECT NO. 2
DOCKET NO. 50-397

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated December 2, 1988, Washington Public Power Supply System proposed certain changes to the Technical Specifications for Nuclear Project No. 2. Supplemental information was provided by letter dated February 1, 1989.

The proposed amendment would change surveillance requirement 4.8.1.1.2.e.7 which is part of the demonstration of operability of the diesel generators. The current surveillance requirement prescribes that upon loss of voltage on the emergency bus concurrent with an emergency core cooling system (ECCS) actuation signal, all division 3 automatic diesel generator trips will be bypassed except engine overspeed, generator differential current, and manual stop. For division 1 and 2 diesels, the incomplete start sequence trip is also retained. The proposed amendment would show that the bypass occurs on the ECCS actuation signal. It would also include the incomplete start sequence in the set of trips not bypassed for division 3 on the ECCS actuation signal.

Because the configuration of the trip and trip bypass circuitry, as installed, is consistent with the proposed amendment but not consistent with the existing surveillance requirement, the licensee determined on February 1 that the division 3 diesel generator is inoperable in accordance with the current surveillance requirement. The February 1 submittal requested relief from the technical specification to avoid the need for immediate shutdown.

The licensee argued in the December 2, 1988 letter that sections 8.3.1.1.8.1.8 and 8.3.1.1.8.2.8 of the plant's FSAR accurately reflect plant design. The FSAR describes the trip and trip bypasses to be as in the proposed amendment rather than as in the existing technical specification. The licensee contended that the intent of the proposed changes is to bring the technical specifications into agreement with the FSAR and the as-built condition of the plant.

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By letter dated February 2, 1989 NRC granted a temporary waiver of compliance with the surveillance requirement to permit WNP-2 to continue operation while the proposed amendment was being reviewed. This temporary waiver was based on staff concurrence with the licensees determination that the facility could be operated safely during the review period.

2.0 EVALUATION

The licensee's proposed change to delete the coincidence on the loss of emergency bus voltage as part of the automatic signal which bypasses the division 1, 2, and 3 diesel generator trips is necessary to bring the technical specifications into agreement with the as built plant design and FSAR description. This change is acceptable on the basis that initiation of the diesel generator trip bypasses by the ECCS actuation signal is consistent with staff requirements and guidance.

The licensee's second proposed change, that is, to retain the incomplete start sequence trip for division 3, is a technical change encompassed by Regulatory Guide 1.9, "Selection, Design, and Qualification of Diesel-Generator Units Used as Standby (Onsite) Electric Power Systems at Nuclear Power Plants." Regulatory Position 7 of that regulatory guide states that "Either (1) a trip should be implemented with two or more independent measurements for each trip parameter with coincident logic provisions for trip actuation, or (2) a trip may be bypassed under accident conditions..."

In the February 1, 1989 letter the licensee stated that the incomplete start sequence trip is generated on coincident, diverse inputs from a diesel generator speed sensor and a diesel generator jacket water pressure switch. This design eliminates the potential for spurious tripping of the diesel generator due to failure of one of the measured inputs (speed or water pressure) which is the concern addressed by Regulatory Position 7 of Regulatory Guide 1.9.

This change is therefore acceptable on the basis that the as-built plant configuration is consistent with the staff guidance provided in Regulatory Guide 1.9 and that the proposed change is consistent with the as-built facility.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

This amendment involves a change in the installation and use of a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. 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 (54 FR 8041, February 24, 1989) 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)(10). 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 and consulted with the State of Washington. No public comments were received, and the State of Washington did not have any comment.

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 (3) 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: March 30, 1989

