

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

In the Matter of)
METROPOLITAN EDISON COMPANY AND) Docket Nos. 50-289
JERSEY CENTRAL POWER & LIGHT COMPANY) and 50-320
(THREE MILE ISLAND NUCLEAR GENERATING)
STATION UNITS 1 AND 2))

DETERMINATION TO SUSPEND CERTAIN CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES
AT THE THREE MILE ISLAND NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION
PENDING COMPLETION OF NEPA ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Metropolitan Edison Company is the holder of Provisional Construction Permit No. CPPR-40 issued May 18, 1968 for Unit No. 1, and Metropolitan Edison Company together with Jersey Central Power & Light Company are the holders of Provisional Construction Permit No. CPPR-66 issued November 4, 1969 for Unit No. 2. The provisional construction permits authorize the construction of two pressurized water nuclear power reactors, designated as the Three Mile Island Nuclear Generating Station Units 1 and 2, located on Three Mile Island, an island in the Susquehanna River, in Londonderry Township, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, about ten miles southeast of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Each reactor is designed to operate initially at 2452 megawatts (thermal).

In accordance with section E.3 of the Commission's regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), Appendix D of 10 CFR Part 50 (Appendix D), the licensees have furnished to the Commission a written statement of reasons, with supporting factual

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submission, why the provisional construction permits should not be suspended, in whole or in part, pending completion of the NEPA environmental review.

The Director of Regulation has considered the licensees' submissions in the light of the criteria set out in section E.2 of Appendix D and has determined, after considering and balancing the criteria in section E.2 of Appendix D, that construction activities involving the offsite portions of the transmission lines for the Three Mile Island Nuclear Generating Station Unit No. 2 should be suspended pending completion of those portions of the NEPA environmental review. With respect to the construction of the onsite portions of the Three Mile Island Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1 and 2, we have balanced the environmental factors and concluded that these activities need not be suspended.

Further details of this determination are set forth in a document entitled, "Discussion and Findings by the Division of Reactor Licensing, U. S. Atomic Energy Commission, Relating to Consideration of Suspension Pending NEPA Environmental Review of the Provisional Construction Permits for the Three Mile Island Nuclear Generating Station Units 1 and 2, Metropolitan Edison Company, and Jersey Central Power & Light Company, Docket Nos. 50-289 and 50-320, November 22, 1971."

In accordance with section E.4(a) of Appendix D, the Director of Regulation has served upon the licensees an order to show cause why the above-mentioned construction activities involving the offsite portions of the transmission lines for the Three Mile Island Nuclear Generating Station Unit 2 should not be suspended pending completion of the NEPA environmental review that relate to these matters. Among other things, the order to show cause provides that the licensees may, within thirty (30) days of the date of the order, file a written answer to the order under oath or affirmation, and informs the licensees of their right, within the same period, to demand a hearing.

Pending completion of the full NEPA review, the holders of Provisional Construction Permits Nos. CPPR-40 and CPPR-66 proceed with construction at their own risk. The determination herein and the discussion and findings referred to above do not preclude the Commission, as a result of its ongoing environmental review, from continuing, modifying or terminating the provisional construction permits or from appropriately conditioning the permits to protect environmental values.

Any person whose interest may be affected by this proceeding, other than the licensees, may file a request for a hearing within thirty (30) days after publication of this determination in the Federal Register. Such request shall set forth the matters, with reference to the factors set out in section E.2 of Appendix D, alleged to warrant a suspension determination other than that made by the Director of Regulation and

set forth the factual basis for the request. If the Commission determines that the matters stated in such request warrant a hearing, a notice of hearing will be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

The licensees' statement of reasons, furnished pursuant to section E.3 of Appendix D, as to why the provisional construction permit should not be suspended pending completion of the NEPA environmental review, and the document entitled "Discussion and Findings by the Division of Reactor Licensing, U. S. Atomic Energy Commission, Relating to Consideration of Suspension Pending NEPA Environmental Review of the Provisional Construction Permits for the Three Mile Island Nuclear Generating Station Units 1 and 2, Metropolitan Edison Company, and Jersey Central Power & Light Company, Docket Nos. 50-289 and 50-320, November 22, 1971," and the Order to Show Cause are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., and at the Government Publications Section, State Library of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Copies of the "Discussion and Findings" document and the Order to Show Cause may be obtained upon request addressed to the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission, Washington, D. C. 20545, Attention: Director, Division of Reactor Licensing.

FOR THE ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

(signed) L. Manning Muntzing

L. Manning Muntzing
Director of Regulation

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland
this 29th day of November, 1971

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