



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

SUPPORTING AMENDMENT NO. 42 TO FACILITY LICENSE NO. DPR-38

AMENDMENT NO. 42 TO FACILITY LICENSE NO. DPR-47

AMENDMENT NO. 39 TO FACILITY LICENSE NO. DPR-55

DUKE POWER COMPANY

OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT NOS. 1, 2 AND 3

DOCKET NOS. 50-269, 50-270 AND 50-287

Introduction

By letter dated October 13, 1976, as supplemented April 29, 1977, Duke Power Company (the licensee) proposed amendments to the licensed conditions for receipt, possession and use of special nuclear, source and byproduct material at the Oconee Nuclear Station, Unit Nos. 1, 2 and 3.

Discussion

The licensee's proposal would replace descriptions of special nuclear, source and byproduct materials which appear in License Nos. DPR-38, DPR-47 and DPR-55 with a standard description in conformance with a format acceptable to us. We have reviewed the proposed license language and found that it provides flexible yet controlled licensing provisions necessary to assure that plant activities can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public. The changes simplify the language and therefore may avoid unnecessary license amendments in the future.

Evaluation

We have reviewed the material submitted by the licensee in support of the license amendments with particular attention to the Radioactive Materials Safety Program. During our review we and the licensee have discussed word modifications to the proposed changes which we both have agreed are desirable to maintain the appropriate flexibility. We have evaluated the licensee's personnel qualifications, facilities, equipment

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and procedures for handling byproduct, source and special nuclear material, as described in the October 13, 1976 letter as supplemented April 29, 1977 and we conclude that the licensee's provisions as described therein are consistent with the provisions of Regulatory Guide 1.70.3.

The licensee's Radioactive Material Safety Program provides for the safe storage and handling of sealed radioactive sources and assures protection against undue exposure while handling them. The program also limits use of these sources to experienced and qualified personnel.

The licensee's radiation protection program has been evaluated. We have concluded that the incorporation of flexible yet controlled licensing provisions for the receipt, possession, and use of byproduct, source and special nuclear material into the operating license for the Oconee Nuclear Station is acceptable. The proposed amendments to the licenses do not authorize an increase in the amount of special nuclear material as reactor fuel.

Environmental Consideration

We have determined that these amendments do not authorize a change in effluent types or total amounts nor an increase in power level and will not result in any significant environmental impact. Having made this determination, we have further concluded that these amendments involve an action which is insignificant from the standpoint of environmental impact and pursuant to 10 CFR §51.5(d)(4) that an environmental statement, negative declaration, or environmental appraisal need not be prepared in connection with the issuance of these amendments.

Conclusion

We have concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) because the amendments do not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of accidents previously considered and do not involve a significant decrease in a safety margin, the amendments do not involve a significant hazards consideration, (2) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, and (3) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations and the issuance of these amendments will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Date: June 30, 1977