ENVIRO - FILE (NEPA)

NOV 24 1971

Docket Nos. 50-269, 50-270, 50-287 50-261, 50-325, 50-324 DR Reading
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GBlanc, REP
Felton, DR
DR Control 3816

DISTRIBUTION: Docket (Env)

PDR (w/incoming)

AEC PDR

Mr. H. T. Westcott Chairman State of North Carolina Utilities Commission Raleigh, North Carolina 27602

Dear Mr. Westcott:

This is in response to your letter to Chairman Schlesinger in which you express concern over the effect that the revised Atomic Energy Commission regulations for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) will have on power plants within your jurisdiction.

Duke Power Company and Carolina Power and Light Company have responded to the "show cause" requirements of Section E of Appendix D as revised (copy enclosed). We are reviewing their responses. One of the considerations in our review is the requirement for power and your comments in that regard will be taken into account. Our determination as to suspension in each case will be noticed in the Federal Register and an opportunity to be heard offered at that time.

With respect to the construction and operation of the plants which are of concern to you, the regulatory staff has been coordinating its reviews with other agencies, including the Federal Power Commission, and the FPC indicates that the Virginia-Cerolinas Area is one of the critical subregions during the Summer of 1972. AEC Chairman Schlesinger's October 29, 1971, letter to FPC Chairman Nassikas (copy enclosed) provides our analysis of the situation and indicates that the completion of AEC staff NEPA review should not be the determining factor during this period. Currently H. B. Robinson Unit 2 is in operation, and the earliest projected date at this time for the issuance of an operating license for Oconce Unit 1 is March 1972. If the projected schedule holds, and no unusual difficulties are experienced, by the Winter of 1972-73 two nuclear power plants in the area (Ocones Unit 1 and Surry Unit 1) could, subject to favorable licensing decisions, be at full power and contribute to an adequate area reserve margin as defined by the FPC. The utility currently estimates that Ocones Unit 2 construction will be completed in December 1972. Consequently, this unit may not help meet the Winter 72-73 peak demands.

Sapy sent PDB

If there are any delays or other occurrences related to a specific plant that affect your interests, and if you wish to be heard, you should make your request at the time a notice of hearing concerning that plant is published in the Federal Register. Information concerning the publication of notices of hearing in AEC licensing proceedings is given in the Commission's Rules of Practice, 10 CFR Part 2, \$ 2.703, and, with respect to hearings in connection with the Section E "show cause" procedures, in Section E.4.(b) of Appendix D.

You will note in Section A, paragraphs 6 to 8 of the enclosed Appendix D to 10 CFR 50 that the Commission sends copies of the applicant's Environmental Report and the Commission's Draft Detailed Environmental Statement to various Federal agencies and State and local officials for comment. Our records reflect that a copy will be sent to the State of North Carolina Utilities Commission for comment. If you have any questions or comments on these procedures please let me know.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by Chris L, Henderson

L. Manning Muntzing Director of Regulation

Enclosures:

- 1. Appendix D to 10 CFR Part 50
- 2. Ltr AEC to FPC, 10/29/71
- 3. 10 CFR Part 2

bcc: Chairman Schlesinger (2)
Commissioner Ramey
Commissioner Larson
Commission Johnson
Commissioner Doub
Secretariat (2)

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To be specific in regard to your expressed concern, our evaluation with respect to the Section E determination for each power plant subject thereto requires a consideration of the power needs to be served by the facility. If you wish to put into the public record information related to the need for power in the area served by any specific nuclear plant, please do so.

You will note in Section A, paragraphs 6 to 8 of the enclosed Appendix D to 10 CFR 50 that the Commission sends copies of the applicant's Environmental Report and the Commission's Draft Detailed Environmental Statement to various Federal agencies and State and local officials for comment. Our records reflect that a copy will be sent to the State of North Carolina Utilities Commission for comment. If you have any questions or comments on these procedures please let me know.

Sincerely,

L. Manning Muntzing Director of Regulation

Enclosures:

1. Appendix D to 10 CFR Part 50

2. Ltr AEC to FPC, 10/29/71

3. 10 CFR Part 2

bcc: Chairman Schlesinger (2)

Commissioner Ramey Commissioner Johnson Commissioner Larson Commissioner Doub Secretariat (2)

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Mr. H. T. Westcott Chairman State of North Carolina Utilities Commission Raleigh, North Caroline 27602

Dear Mr. Westcott:

This is in response to your letter to Chairman Schlesinger in which you express concern over the effect that the revised Atomic Energy Commission regulations will have on power plants within your jurisdiction.

Duke Power Company and Carolina Power and Light Company have responded to the "show cause" requirements of Section E of Appendix D as revised September 9, 1971 (copy enclosed). We are reviewing their responses and appreciate your expressing interest over continuing the construction or operation of the named units. The requirements for power you describe is one of the considerations in our review and, therefore, your information is very timely. Our decision in each case will be noticed in the Federal Register and an opportunity to be heard offered at that time.

Additionally, our overall responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act require a complete review and evaluation of many environmental factors associated with a power reactor project. This process requires substantial time and effort by the utilities and by our staff. In addition, many projects are contested cases which tends to extend the licensing period. The results may be delays in full power operation of some nuclear plants.

With respect to the construction of the plants of concern to you, we cannot predict at this time whether there will be delays in their operation and can only assure you that we will make every effort to swoid delays while fulfilling our responsibilities under NEPA.

If there are any delays or other occurrences related to a specific plant that affects your interests, and if you wish to be heard, you should make your request at the time a notice of hearing concerning that plant is published in the Federal Register. Information concerning the publication of notices of hearing in AEC licensing proceedings is given in the

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Sincerely,

L. Manning Muntzing Director of Regulation

Enclosures

bcc: Chairman Schlesinger (2)
Commissioner Ramey
Commissioner Johnson
Commissioner Larson
Commissioner Doub
Secretariat (2)

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Form AEC-318 (Rev. 9-53) AECM 0240

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(Director's Office)

Mr. Muntzing : SIGNATURE Dr. Beck : Concurrence Dr. Mann : Concurrence Mr. Henderson : Concurrence	Is notification the JCAE recommended?
Concurrences received from:	
Compliance	_()
Materials Licensing	_()
Nuclear Materials Safeguards	_()
Radiological & Environmental Protection 78 11/11	(11/2)
Reactor Licensing	_()
Reactor Standards	_()
State & Licensee Relations	
Office of General Counsel	-(11//21)
Others	_(/ / ·
Others Remarks: Ltr to Westcott, State of N. C. Utilities Con Chairman Schlesinger expressing concern over AEC regulations will have on power plants with	mmission, responding to ltm
HCLH A/Lmn	
and b	Date 11/3/71
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	OR-3816

October 21, 1971

1. Mr. Hoffmann A-241

May we have your advice on filing the attached letter in the Public Document Room?

Rel: Ltr Westcott (N.C. Utilities Comm.)
to Schlesinger, 10/11/71
Docket Nos. 50-269, -270, -287, -261,
-325, and -324

Jeanne Cook Office of the Director of Regulation

2. Jeanne Cook 008 Bethesda

Approved for filing in PDR.

Document not to be filed in the PDR.

Martin R. Hoffmann General Counsel

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of North Caroline	- Utilities	CONTROL NUMBER	6 FILE LOCATION ACTI COMPLETION DEADLINE
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