



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

RELATED TO AMENDMENT NOS. 124, 35, AND 144

TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NOS. DPR-61, DPR-21 AND DPR-65

CONNECTICUT YANKEE ATOMIC POWER COMPANY

AND NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY, ET AL.

HADDAM NECK PLANT AND MILLSTONE NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNIT NOS. 1 AND 2

DOCKET NOS. 50-213, 50-245 AND 50-336

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By application for license amendments dated April 25, 1989, supplemented by letter June 26, 1989, Connecticut Yankee Atomic Power Company and Northeast Nuclear Energy Company (the licensees) requested changes to the Technical Specifications (TS) for the Haddam Neck Plant and Millstone Unit Nos. 1 and 2. The proposed change to the TS would revise the TS Sections 6.12, "High Radiation Area," for Haddam Neck and Millstone Unit 2 plants and TS Section 6.13, "High Radiation Area," for Millstone Unit 1 plant by (1) defining the dose rate as measured at 45 cm (18 inches) from the source, (2) increasing the Radiation Work Permit requirements for entry into locked High Radiation areas with dose rates greater than the 1000 mR/h by requiring maximum stay time limits or continuous surveillance, (3) allowing an alternative to enclosing and locking large areas with dose rates greater than 1000 mR/h and in which an enclosure cannot be reasonably constructed and (4) defining locked High Radiation areas as those with dose rates greater than 1000 mR/h at 18 inches from the radiation source.

2.0 DISCUSSION

The current TS do not specify the distance from the source in determining high radiation areas. The current methodology to determine dose rates for high radiation areas (areas of 100 mR/h to 1000 mR/h and locked high radiation areas of greater than 1000 mR/h) at the Haddam Neck Plant and Millstone Unit Nos. 1 and 2 is for measuring dose 18 inches from the source. This is consistent with the Westinghouse Standard Technical Specifications that are implemented at Millstone Unit No. 3. Thus, the proposed change would bring the TS in conformity with what is currently in practice at all of the licensees' four nuclear plants and would reduce the possibility of overexposure.

The proposed change increases the Radiation Work Permit requirements for entry into locked high radiation areas with radiation levels of greater than 1000 mR/h by requiring maximum stay time limits or continuous surveillance.

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For individual high radiation areas with radiation levels of greater than 1,000 mR/h that are located within large areas, such as PWR containment, where no enclosure exists for purposes of locking, and where no enclosure can be reasonably constructed around the individual area, the proposed change would require that individual area to be barricaded, conspicuously posted, and a flashing light be activated as a warning device.

3.0 EVALUATION

The staff has reviewed the licensee's proposed changes to the TS and finds that: (1) the changes are consistent with the previously approved Westinghouse Standard TS implemented at Millstone Unit 3, (2) the specification of an 18 inch distance for measuring dose is appropriate and is an enhancement to the radiological control program, (3) the change in Radiation Work Permit requiring a maximum stay time limit is appropriate and is consistent with the goals of ALARA, and (4) the change allowing an alternate to enclosing and locking large areas with dose rates greater than 1000 mR/hr and in which an enclosure cannot reasonably be constructed is appropriate and is responsive to the concerns of NRC Information Notice 88-79. Therefore, the staff concludes that the TS changes requested by the licensees are acceptable.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

These amendments change administrative procedures and requirements. Accordingly, the amendments meet 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 the amendments.

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, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendments will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Dated: October 24, 1989

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