

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

SUPPORTING AMENDMENT NO. 9 TO FACILITY LICENSE NO. DPR-51

ARKANSAS POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY

ARKANSAS NUCLEAR ONE - UNIT 1

DOCKET NO. 50-313

Introduction

By letter dated December 10, 1975, Arkansas Power & Light Company (AP&L) proposed changes to the Technical Specifications appended to Facility Operating License No. DPR-51, for Arkansas Nuclear One Unit 1. The proposed changes involve revision of the administrative controls section of the Technical Specifications including the reporting requirements. To expedite the processing of this request, we have divided it into two sections - administrative controls (Sections 6.1 to 6.11) and reporting requirements (Section 6.12). This Safety Evaluation deals only with the reporting requirements plus those changes required to make the remainder of the specifications consistent with the changes to the reporting requirements.

Discussion

The proposed changes would be administrative in nature and would affect the conduct of operation. The proposed changes are intended to provide uniform license requirements. Areas covered by the proposed uniform specifications include reporting requirements and abnormal occurrence definition change.

In Section 208 of the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974 "abnormal occurrence" is defined as an unscheduled incident or event which the Commission determines is significant from the standpoint of public health or safety. The term "abnormal occurrence" is reserved for usage by NRC. Regulatory Guide 1.16, "Reporting of Operating Information - Appendix A Technical Specifications", Revision 4, enumerates required reports consistent with Section 208. The proposed change to required reports identifies the reports required of all licensees not already identified by the regulations and those unique to this facility. The proposal would formalize present reporting and would delete any reports no longer needed for assessment of safety related activities

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Evaluation

The new guidance for reporting operating information does not identify any event as an "abnormal occurrence". The reference to "abnormal occurrence" has been removed from the Table of Contents (i and ii), and pages 6, 126, 127, and 138. The proposed reporting requirements also delete reporting of information no longer required and duplication of reported information. The standardization of required reports and desired format for the information will permit more rapid recognition of potential problems.

During our review of the proposed changes, we found that certain modifications to the proposal were necessary to have conformance with the desired regulatory position. These changes were discussed with the licensee's staff and have been incorporated into the proposal.

We have concluded that the proposal as modified improves the licensee's program for the reporting of operating information needed by the Commission to assess safety related activities and is acceptable. The modified reporting program is consistent with the guidance provided by Regulatory Guide 1.16, "Reporting of Operating Information - Appendix A Technical Specifications," Revision 4.

Environmental Consideration

We have determined that the amendment does not authorize a change in effluent types or total amounts nor an increase in a power level and will not result in any significant environmental impact. Having made this determination, we have further concluded that the amendment involves 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 impact appraisal need not be prepared in connection with the issuance of this amendment.

Conclusion

We have concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) because the change does not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of accidents previously considered and does not involve a significant decrease in a safety margin, the change does 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 this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Date: 144 8 1976

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