



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION  
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 141 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-59

POWER AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

JAMES A. FITZPATRICK NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

DOCKET NO. 50-333

INTRODUCTION

By letter dated May 19, 1989, the Power Authority of the State of New York (PASNY or the licensee), requested changes to the Technical Specifications (TS) for the James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant. One change would change the frequency of the resistance to ground surveillance requirement for the Intake Deicing Heaters from once per operating cycle to once per year. Other minor administrative changes are also included.

DESCRIPTION

In accordance with present plant procedures, the resistance to ground surveillance test of the intake deicing heaters is performed annually during the warm weather season when the heaters are not needed. Thus the adequacy of the heaters to prevent the accumulation of ice at the intake of the Emergency Service Water and Residual Heat Removal Service Water pumps is checked so that any repairs can be completed before they are needed.

Since an operating cycle is generally greater than a calendar year, the present TS test frequency requirement of once per operating cycle would not necessarily coincide with the frequency needed to ensure heater operability prior to cold weather. This inconsistency was recognized in the TS Bases, which described the testing frequency as "annual" on page 244. The proposed TS change, therefore, will result in a requirement for more frequent testing, will be consistent with present plant practices, will ensure that the heaters are tested prior to the season when they will be needed, and will increase consistency within the TS. Other proposed changes are of a minor editorial or administrative nature.

SUMMARY

The staff has determined that the proposed amendment will not adversely affect the conclusions reached in the Final Safety Analysis Report or the NRC staff's Safety Evaluation Report. The proposed changes are, therefore, acceptable.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

This amendment involves a change in the installation or use of a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. The staff has determined that the amendment involves no significant increase

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in the amounts, and no significant change in the types, of any effluents that may be released offsite, and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The Commission has previously issued a proposed finding that this amendment involves no significant hazards consideration and there has been no public comment on such finding. Accordingly, this amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR Sec 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b) no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of this amendment.

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, and (2) 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.

Dated: October 16, 1989

PRINCIPAL CONTRIBUTOR:

D. LaBarge