



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION  
SUPPORTING AMENDMENT NO. 33 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-6

CONSUMERS POWER COMPANY

BIG ROCK POINT PLANT

DOCKET NO. 50-155

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated July 7, 1980, Consumers Power Company (the licensee) requested an amendment to Big Rock Point's Facility Operating License No. DPR-6 that would modify Section 11.4.3.4.B and Table 11.4.3.4 of the Technical Specifications. The request was made to change the surveillance requirements for verifying the operability of the power-operated valves in the containment spray system from once every six months to once each refueling outage, not to exceed eighteen months.

2.0 DISCUSSION

The Big Rock Point plant has redundant containment spray systems. In the event of a loss-of-coolant accident, the containment spray and the core spray systems are initially supplied with water from the fire water system and later by the core spray recirculation system. As discussed in Amendment No. 15, dated October 17, 1977, the backup containment spray valve (MO-7068) is disabled electrically to preclude opening during a LOCA which could result in inadequate reduced flow to the core spray nozzle. Hence, this valve is not testable during power operation. Further, testing of the containment spray valves requires draining of the header common to both the core spray and the containment spray systems which would render these safety systems inoperable.

3.0 EVALUATION

The licensee has requested relief from having to shut the plant down every six months to perform this surveillance test.

The licensee has stated that in the past five years, there have been no failures during testing of the containment spray valves (MO 7064 and MO 7068). In addition, the Big Rock Point dry containment with a containment spray system more closely approximates the containment design of a pressurized water reactor than a current BWR pressure suppression containment. The Standard Technical Specifications for Combustion Engineering PWR's NUREG-0212, specifies that the containment spray system be verified at least once per eighteen months.

#### 4.0 SUMMARY

We have evaluated the licensee's request to modify the surveillance requirements for the containment spray system valves. Based on acceptable results of previous tests conducted on these valves and comparable test frequencies for other dry containment designs, we conclude that increasing the test interval from six months to once each refueling outage, not to exceed eighteen months, is acceptable and that this proposed change does not represent a significant change in a safety margin.

#### 5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

We have determined that the amendment does 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 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 impact statement or negative declaration and environmental impact appraisal need not be prepared in connection with the issuance of this amendment.

#### 6.0 CONCLUSION

We have concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) because the amendment 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 amendment 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: August 11, 1980