



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

AMENDMENT NO. 53 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-18

COMMONWEALTH EDISON COMPANY

LASALLE COUNTY STATION, UNIT 2

DOCKET NO. 50-374

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The proposed amendment to Operating License NPF-18 would revise the LaSalle Unit 2 Technical Specification by deleting specifications added by amendment 30 to allow installation and use of the Fine Motion Control Rod Drive (FMCRD) during the Unit 2 Cycle 2. This amendment would therefore return the Technical Specification to their original state. This amendment is in response to a CECO letter dated September 7, 1988. CECO letters dated May 25 and August 29, 1989 were received after this amendment was noticed and provided information that was clarifying in nature.

2.0 EVALUATION

By letter of February 25, 1986, Commonwealth Edison, the licensee for LaSalle Unit 2, requested a review and approval of General Electric Topical Report NEDO-31120, "LaSalle Unit Fine Motion Control Rod Drive Demonstration Test Description," dated December 1985. The proposed test consisted of replacing an existing peripheral (location 02-43) locking piston control and drive (1LPCRD) module with a Fine Motion Control Rod Drive (FMCRD) module for one plant fuel cycle (approximately 18 months). The purpose of this test was to demonstrate the capability of the FMCRD module in a reactor environment. At the end of the test period, the FMCRD module was to be removed for inspection and the plant restored to its pretest configuration. This request was approved for Unit 2 Cycle 2 in a Safety Evaluation Report (SER) dated August 15, 1986.

Technical Specification Special Test Exception (3/4.10.8, 3/4.10.9, and 3/4.10.10) were added to the Technical Specification to allow testing of the FMCRD at the control location 02-43. These Technical Specification Special Test Exceptions are being deleted, along with the references to them contained in Technical Specifications 3.1.1, 3.1.3.1 through 3.1.3.7, 3.1.4.1, and 3.1.4.2 for Operational Conditions, since the FMCRD module was removed during the refueling outage that concluded in February 1989. Technical Specification 3.9.1 is being modified to delete the requirement to fully insert the FMCRD and disarm the motor electrically before core alterations. The basis for the Technical Specification Special Test Exception are also being deleted. These changes to the Technical Specifications will return the Specifications to their original state to coincide with the plant being returned to the pretest configuration. The staff finds the proposed amendment to be acceptable.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

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

4.0 CONCLUSION

The staff has 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 amendments will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

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Dated: November 28, 1989