



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 145 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 June 14, 1989, the Power Authority of the State of New York (PASNY or the licensee) submitted an amendment for changes to the Technical Specifications (TS) for the James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant. The amendment would change the total number of reactor pressure channels indicated in the "No. of Channels Provided by Design" column of Table 3.2-6, "Surveillance Instrumentation" from "5" to "3".

EVALUATION

The actual plant configuration consists of three independent reactor pressure channels with a range of 0-1200 psig, designated Channel A, Channel B, and Channel C. Each channel includes a reactor pressure sensor, a transmitter, and a control room indicator. Two recorders, one narrow-range and one wide-range, display the input from two of the three pressure sensors. Also, either Channel A or Channel B can be used for feedwater control using a selector switch in the control room.

In the column labeled "Minimum No. of Operable Instrument Channels," Table 3.2-6 indicates that at least two channels of reactor pressure instrumentation with a range of 0-1200 psig must be operable. This, and the actions specified in the table if the instrumentation is inoperable, is unchanged by the proposed amendment. Therefore, the safety aspects and requirements for the instrumentation are not affected.

Since the only effect of the proposal is to change the table to correctly reflect the actual number of instrument channels installed, the change does not affect the existing TS requirement. This means that the number of reactor pressure channels provided for indication and recording continues to satisfy the number of channels and instruments required by regulations. Therefore, the proposed change can be considered to be administrative in nature. For the reasons stated, the staff has determined that the proposed change is satisfactory.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

This amendment involves a change to a surveillance requirement. The staff has determined that this amendment involves no significant increase in the amount, 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 to 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: November 30, 1989

PRINCIPAL CONTRIBUTOR:

D. LaBarge