

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT APPRAISAL BY THE DIVISION OF LICENSING
 SUPPORTING EXTENSION OF CONSTRUCTION PERMIT
 NOS. CPPR-81 AND CPPR-82
 MIDLAND PLANT
 UNITS 1 AND 2

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT APPRAISAL

Description of Proposed Action

By letter of July 22, 1981, Consumers Power Company filed a request with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to extend the completion dates specified in Construction Permit Nos. CPPR-81 and CPPR-82 for the Midland Plant, Units 1 and 2. The action proposed is the issuance of an order providing for an extension of the latest completion dates of the construction permits from October 1, 1982 to and including December 1, 1984 for Unit 1, and from October 1, 1981 to and including July 1, 1984 for Unit 2. The NRC staff has reviewed the application and found that good cause has been shown for the requested extension of the completion dates specified in Construction Permits CPPR-81 and CPPR-82 for the Midland Plant, Units 1 and 2, respectively (see attached Safety Evaluation by the NRC staff).

Environmental Impact of the Proposed Action

A. Need for the Facility

The need for and direct benefits of this plant, as discussed in the Final Environmental Statement published in March of 1972 for the construction permit review was to serve economically the growing electrical load in the area with emphasis on the improvement of electrical system reliability and replacement of fossil fired generation which did not meet air pollution standards. Since preparation of the Final Environmental Statement, the load has grown slower than projected at that time. Thus, the plant delay as requested by Consumers Power Company will not have an adverse impact on the electrical system reliability or replacement of fossil fired generation. The need for and benefits of the plant to serve economically the load and to improve system reliability continues as before except that the emphasis of the need has now shifted to reduce production costs rather than to improve reliability.

B. Community Socioeconomic Impacts

The community socioeconomic impacts of construction were treated in the Final Environmental Statement (FES-CP) for Midland and were updated, along with the coverage of operating impacts, in the final supplement to the FES-CP. Construction impacts which will be experienced during the proposed extension

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period will fall within the range of impacts previously discussed and found acceptable, on balance. Extension of the construction period will, however, contribute to a higher employment rate within the region and delay the full tax benefits which will accrue to local jurisdiction once operation of Units 1 and 2 begins.

C. Natural Resources Impact

The impact on natural resources during site preparation and plant construction were treated in the Final Environmental Statement - Construction Permit Stage (FES-CP) for Midland. No additional sources of potential impacts have been identified in this review. Also, site inspections by the Office of Inspection and Enforcement have not identified construction impacts which were unanticipated or significantly greater than those described in the FES-CP. Extension of the construction schedule does not alter the staff's previous assessment which found the impacts of construction on natural resources to be acceptable.

Basis for Negative Declaration

On the basis of the foregoing analysis and the NRC staff safety evaluation, it is concluded that the impact attributable to the proposed action will be confined to those already predicted and described in the Commission's FES-CP issued in 1972. Having made this conclusion, the Commission has further concluded that no environmental impact statement for the proposed action need be prepared, and that a negative declaration to this effect is appropriate.

Dated: DEC 28 1981

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DISTRIBUTION OF EXTENSION OF CONSTRUCTION PERMIT COMPLETION DATE FOR
MIDLAND PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2

Docket Nos. 50-329/330
NRC PDR 50-329/330
Local PDR ✓ ✓
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