



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

E

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

SUPPORTING AMENDMENT NO. 21 TO LICENSE NO. DPR-6

CONSUMERS POWER COMPANY

BIG ROCK POINT POWER PLANT

DOCKET NO. 50-155

Introduction

By letter dated May 17, 1978, Consumers Power Company (CPCo) submitted an application for an amendment to the Technical Specifications appended to Facility Operating License No. DPR-6 for the Big Rock Point Plant. This amendment changes the Technical Specifications by incorporating the requirements of Appendix J to 10 CFR 50 for the periodic test schedule and the formula for reduced pressure leak rate.

Evaluation

The proposed amendment would change current Specifications 3.7(f) and 3.7(g). Specification 3.7(f) specifies when the tests need to be repeated if the integrated leak rate test (ILRT) show the containment does not meet leakage acceptance criteria. The regulations require that the Commission review and approve the test schedule when the leakage rates exceed the acceptance criteria during an ILRT. In addition, the regulations require that whenever the leakage acceptance criteria is not satisfied in two consecutive ILRT's, then an ILRT shall be performed at each refueling or every 18 months, whichever occurs first, until two consecutive ILRT's give acceptable results.

CPCo proposes to adopt the wording directly from 111.A.6(b) of 10 CFR 50 Appendix J for the case where two consecutive ILRT's result in unacceptable leakage rates. This proposed specification replaces the current specification which addresses the action required with one ILRT with unacceptable leakage rates. Since the Big Rock Point containment does not require special considerations or more limiting specifications than the current regulations, we find this change acceptable.

7811090079 EP

Specification 3.7(g) provides the acceptance criteria for the periodic ILRT's performed at pressure less than the design pressure. CPCo proposes to adopt the formula given in III.A.4.iii of 10 CFR 50 Appendix J to determine the maximum allowable leakage at reduced test pressure. The acceptance criteria for the ILRT is also taken directly from the Regulations. The acceptance criteria for type B and type C tests are more restrictive than for ILRT and therefore, the wording proposed by CPCo was changed to limit the use of the acceptance criteria to the ILRT.

Since CPCo uses the design basis accident pressure to determine acceptable leakage for some tests and the design pressure for other tests, they propose wording that allows either pressure to be used in determining acceptable leakage rates. The design basis accident pressure is lower at Big Rock Point than the design pressure, therefore, use of the design pressure is more conservative than required by regulation and is acceptable for use with the leakage formula.

Since the proposed change in 3.7(g) is consistent with, and in some cases more conservative than, the regulations and will not reduce the accuracy of leakage testing of the containment, we find this change to be acceptable.

Environmental Considerations

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.

Conclusions

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 operations 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: October 20, 1978