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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION CLEVELAND ELECTRIC ILLUMINATING COMPANY, ET AL. DOCKET NO. 50-440

PERRY NUCLEAR POWER PLANT, UNIT NO. 1 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. NPF-58 issued to the Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, Centerior Service Company, Duquesne Light Company, Ohio Edison Company, Pennsylvania Power Company, and Toledo Edison Company (the licensees) for operation of the Perry Nuclear Power Plant, Unit No. 1, located in Lake County, Ohio.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of Proposed Action

The proposed action would revise the provisions in the Technical Specifications (TS) to (1) change primary containment pressure and temperature limits, (2) reflect the expected peak pressure in requirements for containment integrated leak rate testing, and (3) change suppression pool and upper containment pool temperature and level limits.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application for amendment dated June 24, 1992, as supplemented by letter dated September 25, 1992, and application dated November 16, 1992.

The Need for the Proposed Action

The proposed amendment is needed in order to prevent unnecessary plant shutdowns due to high water temperatures in Lake Erie, and to provide

additional operational flexibility with respect to suppression pool and upper containment pool water levels.

Environmental Impact of the Proposed Action

The NRC staff has completed its evaluation of the proposed revision to the TS and concludes that the containment temperature and pressure response following a postulated loss-of-coolant accident (LOCA) will remain acceptable after implementation of the proposed changes. The NRC staff also concludes that the containment will continue to meet the requirements for sufficient margin from temperature and pressure limits as described in 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix A, General Design Criterion 50, "Containment design basis." Therefore, the proposed changes do not increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types of any effluents that may be released offsite, and there is no significant increase in the allowable individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. Accordingly, the NRC staff concludes that this proposed action would result in no significant radiological environmental impact.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed changes to the TS involve systems located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. It does not affect nonradiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, the NRC staff concludes that there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed amendment.

Alternative to the Proposed Action

Because the Commission's staff has concluded that there are no significant environmental impacts associated with the proposed action, any alternatives would have either no significantly different environmental impact or greater environmental impact.

The principal alternative would be to deny the requested amendment.

This would not reduce environmental impacts as a result of plant operations.

Alternative Use of Resources

This action does not involve the use of resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement related to operation of the Perry Nuclear Power Plant, Units 1 and 2, dated August 1982.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

The NRC staff reviewed the licensee's request and consulted with the State of Ohio.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed license amendment.

Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, we conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

For further details with respect to this action, see the licensee's application for amendment dated June 24, 1992, as supplemented by letter dated September 25, 1992, and application for amendment dated November 16, 1992, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public

Document Room, Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, D.C. 20555 and at the local public document room at the Perry Public Library, 3753 Main Street, Perry, Ohio 44081.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 8 day of March 1994.

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FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

John N. Hannon, Director Project Directorate III-3

Division of Reactor Project - III/IV/V Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation