

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT APPRAISAL BY THE DIVISION OF
SITE SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS
SUPPORTING EXTENSION OF CONSTRUCTION PERMITS
NO. CPPR-81 AND CPPR-82, MIDLAND PLANT, UNIT NOS. 1 AND 2

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT APPRAISAL

Description of Proposed Action

By application of August 29, 1977 the applicant, Consumers Power Company (CPC), filed a request with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to extend the completion dates specified in Construction Permits No. CPPR-81 and CPPR-82 for the Midland Plant, Unit Nos. 1 and 2. The action proposed is the issuance of an order providing for an extension of the latest completion date of construction permit CPPR-81 from December 1, 1978 to and including October 1, 1982 and of Construction Permit CPPR-82 from December 1, 1979 to October 1, 1981. 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, Unit Nos. 1 and 2. (See attached Safety Evaluation by the NRC staff).

Environmental Impact of the Proposed Action

A. Need for the Facility

The Midland Plant, Unit No. 1 is now scheduled to begin commercial operation in March 1982; Unit No. 2 is scheduled to begin commercial operation in March 1981. As part of the operating licensing review of this plant the staff has closely followed CPC's need for generating capacity. Examination of the most recent information regarding loads and resources indicates that the conclusion reached in the Final Environmental Statement - Construction Permit stage (FES-CP) published in March 1972 (and supplemented in June 1977) regarding need for this plant is still valid.

The overall staff's conclusion that the plant should be constructed is unaffected by the extension of the construction permits.

B. Community and Economic Impacts

The FES-CP and the Final Supplement to the FES-CP for the Midland Plant include an assessment of potential environmental, economic, and community impacts due to site preparation and plant construction. In addition, (1) the staff's review of the inspection reports prepared by the Office of Inspection and Enforcement as a result of periodic inspection visits to the Midland site, and (2) staff's discussions

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with individuals and local and state officials held at the time of the Operating License stage environmental review site visit did not identify any adverse impacts on the environment or the surrounding community which were not anticipated and adequately discussed in the FES-CP and its final supplement or which were significantly greater than those discussed in the FES-CP or the supplement.

The only effects possibly resulting from the requested extension would be those due to transposing the impacts in time or extending the total time the local community is subjected to temporary construction impacts. This in the staff's view will not result in any significant additional impact. The staff concludes that environmental impacts associated with construction of the plant described in the FES-CP and the final supplement to the FES-CP, are not affected by the proposed extension. Thus, no significant change in impact is expected to result from the extension.

Conclusion and Basis for Negative Declaration

On the basis of the foregoing analysis and the NRC staff evaluation, it is concluded that, with the exception of impacts noted above, which are judged insignificant, the impacts attributable to the proposed action will be confined to those already predicted and described in the Commission's FES-CP issued in 1972 and the Final Supplement to the FES-CP issued in June 1977. 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.