



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555-0001

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 66 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-57

PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANY

ATLANTIC CITY ELECTRIC COMPANY

HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION

DOCKET NO. 50-354

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated August 30, 1993, the Public Service Electric & Gas Company (the licensee) submitted a request for changes to the Hope Creek Generating Station, Technical Specification (TS). The requested changes would revise TS Table 3.8.4.1-1 to delete Breaker No. 52-263022, TS 3.11.2.7 to change the radioactivity rate units and the associated action statement, and change the name of the Offgas Radioactivity Monitor.

2.0 EVALUATION

TS Table 3.8.4.1-1, "Primary Containment Penetration Conductor Overcurrent Protective Devices," contains Breaker No. 52-263022 associated with the control rod drive (CRD) Equipment Handling Platform. This breaker has been disconnected and converted to spare status by a plant design change. Currently, station operating procedure HC.OP-10.ZZ-0002 requires this breaker to be tagged open until the TSs are revised. The proposed change will delete the breaker from TS Table 3.8.4.1-1, and therefore, the requirements of TS 3.8.4.1 will no longer apply. The staff finds this change acceptable.

Currently, TS 3.11.2.7, "Radioactive Effluents - Main Condenser," Limiting Condition for Operation (LCO) requires that the radioactivity rate of noble gases measured at the recombiner after-condenser discharge shall be limited to less than or equal to 330 millicuries per second after 30 minute decay. The associated action statement requires the licensee to restore the radioactivity rate to within its limit within 72 hours or be in at least HOT STANDBY within the next 12 hours when the rate exceeds 330 millicuries per second after a 30 minute decay. The reference to Offgas Radioactivity Monitor in Surveillance Requirement 4.11.2.7.2.b is renamed the Offgas Pretreatment Radiation Monitor.

The proposed change to the LCO will convert the units of radioactivity rate from 330 millicuries per second to 3.30 E+5 microcuries per second. The change makes the radioactivity rate of noble gases consistent with the station chemistry reports, plant Radiation Monitor System (RMS) data, and other TS and does not change the release limits. This is an editorial change and the staff finds it acceptable.

The change from HOT STANDBY to HOT SHUTDOWN requires a more conservative action in the event the recombiner after-condenser discharge exceeds the radioactivity rate for noble gases. HOT STANDBY is a mode switch position

which is part of Operational Condition 2 (Op Con 2), STARTUP. In Op Con 2, the reactor could be maintained critical. By changing to HOT SHUTDOWN, Op Con 3, the reactor would have to be shutdown to meet this requirement. Also, Op Con 3, HOT SHUTDOWN, is defined in the TS and this change will make the action statement terminology consistent with other Hope Creek TS Action statements that require placing the reactor in lower operational conditions. Based on the above discussion, the staff finds this change acceptable.

The change to TS 4.11.2.7.2.b, renaming the Offgas Radioactivity Monitor to Offgas Pretreatment Radiation Monitor is an editorial correction that more accurately identifies the subject monitor. The staff finds this change acceptable.

3.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the New Jersey State Official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendment. The State official had no comments.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendment changes a requirement with respect to installation or use of a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. The NRC staff has determined that the amendment involves no significant increase in the amounts, 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 the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration, and there has been no public comment on such finding (58 FR 50974). Accordingly, the amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b) no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendment.

5.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission has 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, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

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Date: February 28, 1994