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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
INDIANA MICHIGAN POWER COMPANY
DOCKET NO. 50-315
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. DPR-58, issued to Indiana Michigan Power Company, (the licensee), for operation of the Donald C. Cook Nuclear Power Plant Unit No. 1, located in Berrien County, Michigan.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of Proposed Action

The proposed amendment would revise the provisions in the Technical Specifications (TS) relating to defective steam generator tubes allowing repair of defective steam generator tubes by using approved sleeves.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application for amendment dated June 27, 1990, as supplemented by a letter dated October 9, 1990.

The Need for the Proposed Action

The proposed change to the TS is required in order to provide the licensee the ability to perform repairs on steam generator tubes which are defective. Currently, defective tubes must be plugged and removed from service.

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Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed revision to TS and concludes that the proposed sleeving repairs can be accomplished to produce a sleeved tube of acceptable metallurgical properties, strength and mechanical stability, leak tightness and corrosion resistance. Also, that the pre-service integrity of the sleeves can be assured by implementing the proposed sleeve installation examinations. Thus, the proposed action would not affect the probability or consequences of potential reactor accidents and would not otherwise affect radiological plant effluents. Sleeving of defective tubes will be done on an as needed basis where practical. Because of the uncertainty as to the number of tubes which may require sleeving, the licensee could not provide an estimate of the total occupational dose for the sleeving activities. However, the licensee did provide information by letter dated November 21, 1990 that the estimated dose would be approximately 95 mrem per sleeve. While this is somewhat higher than the estimated dose for plugging tubes, the alternative repair method currently approved for use at the facility, this compares favorably with industry experience for similar repairs. In addition, it is expected that the dose for the proposed sleeving action would fall within the expected range for annual occupational exposure experienced at nuclear power plants. On this basis, the staff believes that the proposed action will not involve a significant increase in individual or cumulative radiation exposure. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that this proposed action would result in no significant radiological environmental impact.

With regard to potential non-radiological impacts, the proposed change to the TS involves systems located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. It does not affect non-radiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant non-radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed amendment.

The Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment and Opportunity for Hearing in connection with this action was published in the Federal Register on October 19, 1990 (55 FR 42526). No request for hearing or petition for leave to intervene was filed following this notice.

Alternative to the Proposed Action

Since the Commission concluded that there are no significant environmental effects that would result from the proposed action, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impacts need not be evaluated.

The principal alternative would be to deny the requested amendment. This would not reduce environmental impacts of plant operation and would result in reduced operational flexibility.

Alternative Use of Resources

This action does not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statements for the Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant Units 1 and 2, dated August 1973.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

The NRC staff reviewed the licensee's request and did not consult other agencies or persons.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

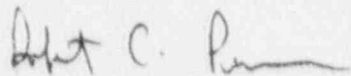
The Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed license amendment.

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 application for amendment dated June 27, 1990 and a supplement dated October 9, 1990, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. and at the Maude Preston Palenske Memorial Library, 500 Market Street, St. Joseph, Michigan 49085.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 27th day of November 1990.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



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