

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONGPU NUCLEAR CORPORATIONANDJERSEY CENTRAL POWER & LIGHT COMPANYDOCKET NO. 50-219ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ANDFINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to Provisional Operating License No. DPR-16 issued to GPU Nuclear Corporation, et. al. (the licensee), for operation of the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station, located in Ocean County, New Jersey.

ENVIRONMENT ASSESSMENTIdentification of Proposed Action:

The amendment would revise the Technical Specifications (TS) to accommodate implementation of a 21-month operating cycle with a 3-month outage or a 24-month plant refueling cycle for Technical Specification surveillances for certain systems and equipment. Since the individual surveillances are affected by the proposed change to the refueling outage definition, Technical Specification Definition 1.12, Refueling Outage is revised to specify that refueling outage tests or surveillances shall be performed at least once per 24 months.

The proposed amendment is in accordance with GPU Nuclear Corporation's application dated March 2, 1990 as supplemented November 29, and December 21, 1990.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed changes to the Technical Specifications are needed so that surveillance requirements for certain systems and equipment be extended to accommodate a 21-month operating cycle with a 3-month outage or a 24-month plant refueling cycle.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The Commission has completed its evaluation of each of the proposed revisions to the Technical Specifications. The proposed revisions would accommodate implementation of a 21-month operating cycle with a 3-month outage or a 24-month plant refueling cycle for Technical Specification surveillances for certain systems and equipment. Since the individual surveillances are affected by the proposed change to the refueling outage definition, Technical Specification Definition 1.12, Refueling Outage is revised to specify that refueling outage tests or surveillance shall be performed at least once per 24 months. Oyster Creek is presently on a 20-month refueling cycle.

Based on its review, the Commission concludes that each of the proposed Technical Specification changes are acceptable and, 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 Commission concludes that these proposed actions would result in no significant radiological environmental impact.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed changes to the Technical Specifications involve several components in the plant which are

located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. They do not affect nonradiological plant effluents and have no other environmental impacts. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed amendment.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action:

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

Alternative Use of Resources:

The action would involve no use of resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement (FES) for the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station dated December 1974.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

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

FINDING NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

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

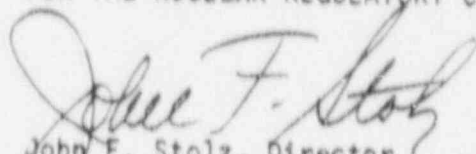
Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, we conclude that the proposed actions will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated March 2, 1990, as supplemented November 29, and December 21, 1990, which is available for public inspection in the Commission's Public

Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.,
20555 and the Ocean County Library, Reference Department, 101 Washington
Street, Toms River, New Jersey 08753.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 4th day of January 1991.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



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