

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY
MILLSTONE NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNIT NO. 2
DOCKET NO. 50-336
NOTICE OF ISSUANCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission is considering issuance of an amendment to Operating License No. DPR-65 to Northeast Nuclear Energy Company, (the licensee) for Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 2 located in Waterford, Connecticut.

Identification of Proposed Action:

The amendment would consist of changes to the operating license and Technical Specifications (TS). The changes would modify the spent fuel pool (SFP) by introducing neutron absorbing (poison) rodlets (pins) into the stored fuel and increase the required burnup in Region C to permit removal of the cell blockers, thus increasing by 234 fuel assemblies the storage capacity of the SFP.

The amendment to the TS is responsive to the licensee's application dated May 14, 1993, as supplemented by letters of July 10, July 16, November 30, December 1, 1993, and January 27, 1994. The NRC staff has prepared an Environmental Assessment of the proposed action, "Environmental Assessment By the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation Relating to the Modification of the Spent Fuel Storage Pool, Operating License No. DPR-65, Northeast Nuclear Energy Company, Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 2. Docket No. 50-336" dated February 14, 1994

Summary of Environmental Assessment:

The Final Generic Environmental Impact Statement (FGEIS) on Handling and Storage of Spent Light Water Power Reactor Fuel (NUREG-0575) concluded that the environmental impact of interim storage of spent fuel was negligible and the cost of the various alternatives reflects the advantage of continued generation of nuclear power with the accompanying spent fuel storage. Because of the differences in SFP designs, the FGEIS recommended licensing SFP expansion on a case-by-case basis.

For Millstone Unit 2, the SFP modification will not create any significant additional radiological effects or measurable nonradiological environmental impacts. The licensee has evaluated the effect of the changes on the calculated consequences of a spectrum of postulated design basis accidents and concludes that the effect of the proposed TS changes are small and that the calculated consequences are within regulatory requirements and staff guideline dose values. The total occupational exposure for the modification and the additional occupational exposure for subsequent operation of the modified SFP will not significantly increase since the radiation fields in the area near the pool are not expected to increase during the SFP modification. Divers will not be used during the modifications and the licensee will prepare and follow specific procedures that are consistent with good ALARA principles and practices. Therefore, the staff concludes that the exposure to workers is as low as is reasonably achievable (ALARA) and is acceptable.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The staff has reviewed this proposed facility modification relative to the requirements set forth in 10 CFR Part 51. Based upon the environmental

assessment, the staff concluded that there are no significant radiological or nonradiological impacts associated with the proposed action and that the proposed license amendment will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Therefore, the Commission has determined, pursuant to 10 CFR 51.31, not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed amendment.

For further details with respect to this action, see (1) the application for the amendment to the Technical Specifications dated May 14, 1993, as supplemented by letters of July 10, July 16, November 30, December 1, 1993, and January 27, 1994. (2) the FGEIS on Handling and Storage of Spent Light Power Reactor Fuel (NUREG-0575), (3) the Final Environmental Statement for Millstone, Unit No. 2 issued June 1973, and (4) the Environmental Assessment dated February 14, 1994. These documents are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC 20555, and at the local public document room located at the Learning Resource Center, Three Rivers Community-Technical College, Thames Valley Campus, 574 New London Turnpike, Norwich, Connecticut 06360.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 14th day of February 1994.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



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