

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of)	
)	
BALTIMORE GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY)	Docket Nos. 50-317 and 50-318
)	
(Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant Unit Nos. 1 and 2))	
)	

EXEMPTION

I.

The Baltimore Gas and Electric Company (the licensee) is the holder of Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-53 and DPR-69 which authorize operation of the Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Unit Nos. 1 and 2. These licenses provide, among other things, that they are subject to all rules, regulations and Orders of the Commission now or hereafter in effect.

The facility comprises two pressurized water reactors at the licensee's site located in Calvert County, Maryland.

II.

On November 19, 1980, the Commission published a revised Section 10 CFR 50.48 and a new Appendix R to 10 CFR 50 regarding fire protection features of nuclear power plants (45 FR 76602). The revised Section 50.48 and Appendix R became effective on February 17, 1981. Section 50.48(c) established the schedules for satisfying the provisions of Appendix R. Section III of Appendix R contains fifteen subsections, lettered A through O, each of which specifies requirements for a particular aspect of the fire protection features at a nuclear power plant.

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Subsection III.J specifies that emergency lighting units with at least an 8-hour battery power supply shall be provided in all areas needed for operation of safe shutdown equipment in access and egress routes thereto.

Section 50.48(c) requires completion of all modifications to meet the provisions of Appendix R within a specified time from the effective date of this fire protection rule, February 17, 1981, except for modifications to provide alternative safe shutdown capability. On September 27, 1982, the NRC issued Supplement 3 to the Calvert Cliffs Fire Protection Safety Evaluation Report (FPSER), dated September 14, 1979, which provided NRC approval of the licensee's Interactive Cable Analysis (ICA). This approval was required by the licensee in order to identify areas within Units 1 and 2 which require emergency lighting in accordance with 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix R, Subsection III.J. In accordance with 10 CFR 50.48(c)(4), these modifications are required to be completed within six (6) months of NRC approval if plant shutdown is not required. Since Supplement 3 to the FPSER was issued on September 27, 1982, the associated modifications not requiring plant shutdown are required to be completed by March 27, 1983.

By application dated February 23, 1983, the licensee requested an exemption from the schedular requirements of 10 CFR 50.48(c)(4) in that the installation of emergency lighting, not requiring plant shutdown, could not be completed prior to September 1, 1983. By way of explanation, the licensee indicated in its application of February 23, 1983 that at the time of the September 27, 1982 FPSER supplement, engineering and planning resources were heavily

committed to the imminent Unit No. 2 refueling outage, which commenced on October 16, 1982 and was completed on January 16, 1983. The licensee was not able to include any emergency lighting modification work in that outage interval, but did begin making the modifications after the completion of the outage.

III.

Based on our consideration of these circumstances, we conclude that the licensee made proper application of available resources in a best effort to provide the required emergency lighting. However, the time allowed proved to be insufficient to permit full implementation. In addition, we have determined that as an interim compensatory measure the existing emergency lighting in conjunction with the portable lighting units that are available for use by the operators and members of the fire brigade can provide emergency lighting as needed until the installation of the required units is achieved. On this basis, the staff has judged that the request for exemption to allow additional time to complete the installation of the emergency lighting for both units until September 1, 1983 should be granted.

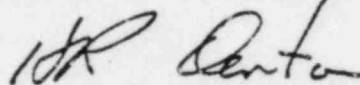
IV.

Accordingly, the Commission has determined that, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.12, an exemption is authorized by law and will not endanger life or property or the common defense and security and is otherwise in the public interest and hereby grants the following exemption with respect to the schedular requirements of 10 CFR Part 50, Subsection 50.48(c):

Extend the implementation date in paragraph (c)(4) for installation of modifications required by Appendix R, Subsection III.J for both units, that require prior NRC approval but not plant shutdown, from March 27, 1983 to September 1, 1983.

The NRC staff had determined that the granting of this Exemption will not result in any significant environmental impact and that pursuant to 10 CFR 51.5(d)(4) an environmental impact statement or negative declaration and environmental impact appraisal need not be prepared in connection with this action.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland
this 15th day of March, 1983.