

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WISCONSIN PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATION
NOTICE OF CONSIDERATION OF ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT TO
FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE AND PROPOSED NO SIGNIFICANT HAZARDS
CONSIDERATION DETERMINATION AND OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. DPR-43, issued to Wisconsin Public Service Corporation (the licensee), for operation of the Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant, located in Kewaunee, Wisconsin.

The proposed amendment would revise Technical Specification (TS) 4.2.b to clarify how motorized rotating pancake coil (MRPC) eddy current indications in the steam generator (SG) hot leg tubesheet crevice area will be dispositioned during the spring 1991 refueling outage. This amendment would be an interim measure for the 1991-1992 operating cycle. During the spring 1992 refueling outage, flexible sleeving technology may be used which will extend the sleeving boundary to all but the outermost tubes. At that time, the hot leg crevice area indications will be plugged or repaired by sleeving and this clarification of the TS will no longer be required.

Before issuance of the proposed license amendment, the Commission will have made findings required by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's regulations.

The Commission has made a proposed determination that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration. Under the Commission's regulations in 10 CFR 50.92, this means that operation of the facility in accordance with the proposed amendment would not (1) involve a significant

increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated; or (2) create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated; or (3) involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety.

The proposed change would not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated. The accidents of interest are the steam line break (SLB) and the steam generator tube rupture (SGTR). The probability of an SLB is independent of SG tube integrity and has been shown to be small. SG tubes with through-wall cracking confined to within the tubesheet do not burst during normal operation or postulated accident conditions due to the support provided by the tubesheet. Therefore, the criteria of Regulatory Guide 1.121 for tube burst are inherently satisfied for the tubesheet crevice cracks due to the presence of the tubesheet.

The consequences of an accident previously evaluated would not be increased by the proposed TS change. The SLB is most limiting relative to the potential for offsite dose consequences. The offsite dose acceptance criteria used for this analysis was 30 rem thyroid; i.e., 10 percent of the 10 CFR Part 100 guideline, which corresponds to an allowable primary-to-secondary leakage rate of 260 gpm. If all of the known and projected hot leg tubesheet crevice indications were to develop a leak during an SLB, the postulated leakage is conservatively bounded by KNPP's SLB analysis of record. With an allowable leakage rate of 260 gpm, the acceptable number of through-wall cracks in the hot leg crevice region with an operating leakage limit of 200 gpd, is 388. Therefore, the limit of 388 tubes per SG is specified in the TS.

The proposed change would not create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated. Specifying the method to disposition motorized rotating pancake coil (MRPC) eddy current

indications will not alter the plant configuration or plant performance. Since the indications are confined to within the tubesheet, tube integrity will be maintained during normal and plant transient conditions. The administrative primary-to-secondary leakage limit of 200 gpd is being implemented to ensure that radiological consequences of leakage from the crevice indications do not exceed a small fraction of 10 CFR Part 100 limits during the SLB.

The proposed change would not involve a significant reduction in the margin of safety. The structural integrity of the tubes, the leakage rate of restricted and unrestricted tube to tubesheet crevices under normal and SLB conditions, and the radiological consequences were evaluated in detail. Even the worst case conditions, i.e., the growth of all known and projected hot leg tubesheet crevice indications to a through-wall crack, will not result in a tube burst or cause offsite doses to exceed a small fraction of 10 CFR Part 100 limits during SLB conditions.

Therefore, based on the above considerations, the Commission has made a proposed determination that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration.

The Commission is seeking public comments on this proposed determination. Any comments received within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice will be considered in making any final determination. The Commission will not normally make a final determination unless it receives a request for a hearing.

Written comments may be submitted by mail to the Regulatory Publications Branch, Division of Freedom of Information and Publications Services, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C.

20555, and should cite the publication date and page number of this FEDERAL REGISTER notice. Written comments may also be delivered to Room P-223, Phillips Building, 7920 Norfolk Avenue, Bethesda, Maryland, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Copies of written comments received may be examined at the NRC Public Document Room, the Gelman Building 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. The filing of requests for hearing and petitions for leave to intervene is discussed below.

By April 30, 1991, the licensee may file a request for a hearing with respect to issuance of the amendment to the subject facility operating license and any person whose interest may be affected by this proceeding and who wishes to participate as a party in the proceeding must file a written petition for leave to intervene. Requests for a hearing and petitions for leave to intervene shall be filed in accordance with the Commission's "Rules of Practice for Domestic Licensing Proceedings" in 10 CFR Part 2. Interested persons should consult a current copy of 10 CFR 2.714 which is available at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20555 and at the local public document room located at the Joseph P. Mann Library, 1516 Sixteenth Street, Two Rivers, Wisconsin. If a request for a hearing or petition for leave to intervene is filed by the above date, the Commission or an Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, designated by the Commission or by the Chairman of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel will rule on the request and/or petition and the Secretary or the designated Atomic Safety and Licensing Board will issue a notice of hearing or an appropriate order.

As required by 10 CFR §2.714, a petition for leave to intervene shall set forth with particularity the interest of the petitioner in the proceeding, and how that interest may be affected by the results of the proceeding. The petition should specifically explain the reasons why intervention should be permitted with particular reference to the following factors: (1) the nature of the petitioner's right under the Act to be made a party to the proceeding; (2) the nature and extent of the petitioner's property, financial, or other interest in the proceeding; and (3) the possible effect of any order which may be entered in the proceeding on the petitioner's interest. The petition should also identify the specific aspect(s) of the subject matter of the proceeding as to which petitioner wishes to intervene. Any person who has filed a petition for leave to intervene or who has been admitted as a party may amend the petition without requesting leave of the Board up to fifteen (15) days prior to the first prehearing conference scheduled in the proceeding, but such an amended petition must satisfy the specificity requirements described above.

Not later than fifteen (15) days prior to the first prehearing conference scheduled in the proceeding, a petitioner shall file a supplement to the petition to intervene which must include a list of the contentions which are sought to be litigated in the matter. Each contention must consist of a specific statement of the issue of law or fact to be raised or controverted. In addition, the petitioner shall provide a brief explanation of the bases of the contention and a concise statement of the alleged facts or expert opinion which support the contention and on which the petitioner intends to rely in proving the contention at the hearing. The petitioner must also provide references to those specific sources and documents of which the petitioner is aware and on

which the petitioner intends to rely to establish those facts or expert opinion. Petitioner must provide sufficient information to show that a genuine dispute exists with the applicant on a material issue of law or fact. Contentions shall be limited to matters within the scope of the amendment under consideration. The contention must be one which, if proven, would entitle the petitioner to relief. A petitioner who fails to file such a supplement which satisfies these requirements with respect to at least one contention will not be permitted to participate as a party.

Those permitted to intervene become parties to the proceeding, subject to any limitations in the order granting leave to intervene, and have the opportunity to participate fully in the conduct of the hearing, including the opportunity to present evidence and cross-examine witnesses.

If a hearing is requested, the Commission will make a final determination on the issue of no significant hazards consideration. The final determination will serve to decide when the hearing is held.

If the final determination is that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration, the Commission may issue the amendment and make it effective, notwithstanding the request for a hearing. Any hearing held would take place after issuance of the amendment.

If the final determination is that the amendment request involves a significant hazards consideration, any hearing held would take place before the issuance of any amendment.

Normally, the Commission will not issue the amendment until the expiration of the 30-day notice period. However, should circumstances change during the notice period such that failure to act in a timely way would result, for

example, in derating or shutdown of the facility, the Commission may issue the license amendment before the expiration of the 30-day notice period, provided that its final determination is that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration. The final determination will consider all public and State comments received. Should the Commission take this action, it will publish a notice of issuance and provide for opportunity for a hearing after issuance. The Commission expects that the need to take this action will occur very infrequently.

A request for a hearing or a petition for leave to intervene must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555, Attention: Docketing and Service Branch, or may be delivered to the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, N.W. Washington, D.C., by the above date. Where petitions are filed during the last ten (10) days of the notice period, it is requested that the petitioner promptly so inform the Commission by a toll-free telephone call to Western Union at 1 (800) 325-6000 (in Missouri 1 (800) 342-6700). The Western Union operator should be given Datagram Identification Number 3737 and the following message addressed to John W. Hannon: petitioner's name and telephone number; date petition was mailed; plant name; and publication date and page number of this FEDERAL REGISTER notice. A copy of the petition should also be sent to the Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555, and to David Baker, Esq., Foley and Lardner, P. O. Box 2193, Orlando, Florida 31082, attorney for the licensee.

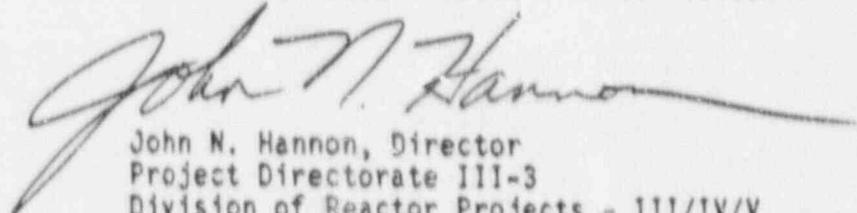
Nontimely filings of petitions for leave to intervene, amended petitions, supplemental petitions and/or requests for hearing will not be entertained

absent a determination by the Commission, the presiding officer, or the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board that the petition and/or request, should be granted based upon a balancing of the factors specified in 10 CFR 2.714(a)(1)(i)-(v) and 2.714(d).

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated March 19, 1991, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20555, and at the Joseph P. Mann Library, 1516 Sixteenth Street, Two Rivers, Wisconsin.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 26th day of March 1991.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



John N. Hannon, Director
Project Directorate III-3
Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV/V
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation