UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 118 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NPF-9

AND AMENDMENT NO. 100 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NPF-17

DUKE POWER COMPANY

MCGUIRE NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2

DOCKET NOS. 50-369 AND 50-370

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated October 24, 1990, Duke Power Company (the licensee) requested amendments to the Technical Specifications (TSs) appended to Facility Operating License Nos. NPF-9 and NPF-17 for the McGuire Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2. The proposed amendments would revise the in-place penetration and bypass leakage requirement in TS 4.7.6.c.1, 4.7.6.f, and 4.7.6.g from less than 1% to less than 0.05%.

2.0 EVALUATION

McGuire TS 3/4.7.6, Control Area Ventilation System, requires surveillance testing of the control room area ventilation (VC) system in accordance with Regulatory Guide 1.52 Revision 2 and requires that the in-place penetration and bypass leakage shall be less than 1%.

On March 2, 1983, Generic Letter 83-13 was issued to clarify the surveillance requirements for HEPA filters and charcoal adsorber units in standard TS on cleanup systems. This clarification stated that an in-place penetration and bypass leakage testing acceptance criterion of less than 0.05% was applicable for a HEPA filter or charcoal adsorber efficiency of 99%, or an acceptance criteria of less than 1% for a HEPA filter or charcoal adsorber efficiency of 95%.

The McGuire control room area ventilation (VC) system has a HEPA filter and carbon efficiency rating of 99%, and assumes a HEPA filter and carbon adsorber efficiency of 99%. Under the clarifications of the Generic Letter, the existing 1% acceptance criteria is in conflict with the assumed HEPA filter and carbon efficiency of 99%. Therefore, the licensee is requesting that the current TS requirement for an in-place penetration and bypass leakage of less than 1% should be changed to less than 0.05%.

The staff has reviewed the licensee's proposal to reduce the HEPA filter penetration and bypass leakage testing acceptance criteria in TS 3/4.7.6, Control Area Ventilation System, from the current value of less than 1% to less than 0.05% and found the proposed change to be conservative and acceptable.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

These amendments involve changes in requirements with respect to the installation or use of facility components located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20 and changes in surveillance requirements. The staff has determined that the amendments involve no significant increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types, of any effluents that may be released offsite and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The Commission has previously issued a proposed finding that the amendments involve no significant hazards consideration, and there has been no public comment on such finding. Accordingly, the amendments meet the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b), no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of these amendments.

4.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission's proposed determination that the amendments involve no significant hazards consideration was published in the Federal Register (56 FR 9227) on March 6, 1991. The Commission consulted with the State of North Carolina. No public comments were received, and the State of North Carolina did not have any comments.

The staff has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, and (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and the issuance of these amendments will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

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Dated: April 5, 1991