UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV
611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 1000
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011

AUG 10 1983

PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO

DOCKET 50-267

FORT ST. VRAIN NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 35
License DPR-34

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:

   A. The application for amendment by Public Service Company of Colorado (the licensee) dated May 20, 1983, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;

   B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;

   C. There is reasonable assurance (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations;

   D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and

   E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.

2. Accordingly, Facility Operating License DPR-34 is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment, and paragraph 2.D.(2) is hereby amended to read as follows:

(2) Technical Specifications

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendices A and B, as revised through Amendment No. 35, are hereby incorporated in the license. The licensee shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications.

3. This license amendment is effective as of the date of its issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

G. L. Madsen, Chief
Reactor Project Branch 1

Attachment:
Changes to the Appendix B
Technical Specifications

Date of Issuance: AUG 10 1983

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT

AMENDMENT NO. 35 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE DPR-34

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Replace the Appendix B Technical Specifications in their entirety with the enclosed pages.

Remove	Insert
Title Page	Title Page
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Pages 1 - 22	Pages 1 - 9

APPENDIX B

TO OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-34

FORT ST. VRAIN NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION

PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO

DOCKET NO. 50-267

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION PLAN

(NON-RADIOLOGICAL)

1.0 OBJECTIVES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION PLAN

The Environmental Protection Plan (EPP) is to provide for protection of environmental values during operation and additional construction of the nuclear facility. The principal objectives of the EPP are as follows:

a) Verify that the plant is operated in an environmentally acceptable manner, as established by the Final Environmental Statement (FES) and other Nuclear Regulatory Commission environmental impact assessments.

b) Coordinate Nuclear Regulatory Commission requirements and maintain consistency with other Federal, State, and local requirements for environmental protection.

c) Keep the Nuclear Regulatory Commission informed of the environmental effects of facility operation and additional construction and of actions taken to control those effects.

Environmental concerns identified in the FES which relate to water quality matters are regulated by way of the licensee's NPDES permit.

2.0 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ISSUES

In the FES-OL, the staff considered the environmental impacts associated with the operation of the Fort St. Vrain Station. Certain environmental issues were identified which required study or license conditions to resolve environmental concerns

and to assure adequate protection of the environment. The Appendix B Environmental Technical Specifications (ETS) issued with the licenses included discharge restrictions and monitoring programs to resolve the issues. Prior to issuance of this EPP, the requirements remaining in the ETS were:

a) Protection of the aquatic environment by limiting thermal stress to aquatic organisms.

b) Protection of aquatic life by limiting the release of chemicals from plant operation.

c) The need for aquatic monitoring programs to confirm that effects on phytoplankton, periphyton, plankton, benthos, and fish due to plant operation are no greater than anticipated.

d) The need for studies to document levels of intake entrainment and impingement in relation to the densities of important species in the plant vicinity.

Aquatic issues are now addressed by the effluent limitations and monitoring requirements contained in the effective NPDES Permit issued by the State of Colorado. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission will rely on this agency for regulation of matters involving water quality and aquatic biota.

2.1 Terrestrial Issues

The ETS also contained the following programs related to protection of the terrestrial environment:

a) Surveillance programs to determine vegetation composition, bird and small mammal populations, amphibian and reptile distribution, and distribution of terrestrial invertebrates.

b) Special programs were undertaken to: 1) examine vegetation tissue changes related to cooling tower drift, and 2) examine heavy metal uptake by a common resident mammal and amphibian species.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission requirements for Issue a) and b)2) have been completed and are terminated by the appraisal prepared in conjunction with preparation of this EPP. The requirements with regard to Issue b)1) are specified in Subsection 4.2 of this EPP.

3.0 CONSISTENCY REQUIREMENTS

3.1 Plant Design and Operation

The licensee may make changes in station design or operation or perform tests or experiments affecting the environment provided such changes, tests, or experiments do not involve an unreviewed environmental question. Changes in plant design or operation or performance of tests or

experiments which do not affect the environment are not subject to this requirement.

Before engaging in construction or operational activities which may affect the environment, the licensee shall perform an environmental evaluation of such activity.* When the evaluation indicates that such activity involves an unreviewed environmental question, the licensee shall provide a written evaluation of such activities and obtain prior approval from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

A proposed change, test, or experiment shall be deemed to involve an unreviewed environmental question if it concerns 1) a matter which may result in a significant increase in any adverse environmental impact previously evaluated in the FES as modified by staff's testimony to the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, supplements to the FES, environmental impact appraisals, or in any decisions of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board; or 2) a significant change in effluents or power level (in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51.5(b)(2)); or 3) a matter not previously reviewed and evaluated in the documents specified in 1) of this subsection, which may have a significant adverse environmental impact.

*Activities are excluded from this requirement if all measurable non-radiological effects are confined to the on-site areas previously disturbed during site preparation, plant construction, and previous plant operation.

The licensee shall maintain records of changes in facility design or operation and of tests and experiments carried out pursuant to this subsection. These records shall include a written evaluation which provides bases for the determination that the change, test, or experiment does not involve an unreviewed environmental question.

Activities governed by Section 3.3 of this EPP are not subject to the requirements of this section.

3.2 Reporting Related to the NPDES Permit and State Certification (Pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act)

a) Violations of the NPDES Permit or the State 401 Certification conditions shall be reported to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission by submittal of copies of the reports required by the NPDES Permit or State 401 Certification.

b) The licensee shall provide the Nuclear Regulatory Commission with a copy of any 316(a) or (b) studies and/or related documentation at the same time it is submitted to the permitting agency.

c) Changes and additions to the NPDES Permit or the State 401 Certification shall be reported to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission within 30 days following the date the change is approved. If a permit or

certification, in part or in its entirety, is appealed and stayed, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission shall be notified within 30 days following the date the stay is granted.

d) The Nuclear Regulatory Commission shall be notified of changes to the effective NPDES Permit proposed by the licensee by providing the Nuclear Regulatory Commission with a copy of the proposed change at the same time it is submitted to the permitting agency. The licensee shall provide the Nuclear Regulatory Commission with a copy of the application for renewal of the NPDES Permit at the same time the application is submitted to the permitting agency.

3.3 Changes Required for Compliance with Other Environmental Regulations

Changes in plant design or operation and performance of tests or experiments which are required to achieve compliance with other Federal, State, or local environmental regulations are not subject to the requirements of Section 3.1.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

4.1 Significant Environmental Events

Any occurrence of a significant event that indicates or could result in significant environmental impact causally related to station operation shall be recorded and promptly reported to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission within 24 hours followed by a written report within 30 days. No routine monitoring programs are required to implement this condition.

The written report shall 1) describe, analyze, and evaluate the event, including extent and magnitude of the impact and plant operating characteristics, 2) describe the probable cause of the event, 3) indicate the action taken to correct the reported event, 4) indicate the corrective action taken to preclude repetition of the event and to prevent similar occurrences involving similar components or systems, and 5) indicate the agencies notified and their preliminary responses.

Events reportable under this subsection which also require reports to other Federal, State, or local agencies shall be reported in accordance with those reporting requirements in lieu of the requirements of this subsection. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission shall be provided a copy of such a

report at the same time it is submitted to the other agency.

The following are examples of significant environmental events: excessive bird impaction events; on-site plant or animal disease outbreaks; mortality or unusual occurrence of any species protected by the Endangered Species Act of 1973; unusual fish kills; and increase in nuisance organisms or conditions.

4.2 Aerial Remote Sensing

Vegetation, communities of the site and vicinity within two kilometers of the cooling towers in all directions shall be aerially photographed to detect and assess the significance of damage, or lack thereof, as related to cooling tower drift dispersions. Color infrared photography shall be utilized by low altitude aerial overflight during August or September, whichever corresponds to the height of the growing season for most agricultural crops in the area. A scale of at least 1" to 6000" will be used which will permit the identification of vegetative damage or impacted features over relatively small areas of terrain. Some circumstances may warrant inspection of photographs discerning individual trees. Aerial photographic monitoring shall be conducted during the August/September period after the station has operated at a capacity factor of greater than 50% during the months

of May, June, July, and the portions of August and September prior to the photographic date. Following the first monitoring period, the program shall be repeated during appropriate alternate years for two additional aerial photographic surveys. A report shall be submitted within 90 days following each aerial photographic monitoring period. The report shall contain a description of the program results and interpretative analyses of environmental impacts. Photographs shall be interpreted to ascertain stress in vegetation as a function of distance from the cooling tower for each photographic period and for changes in the size of any impacted area from the first photographic period to later photographic periods. Photographic interpretations shall be verified by ground inspection surveys to confirm areas of indicated stress and non-stress. Results reported shall contain information encompassing, but not limited to, the following: ground inspection verification data; time of day; film types; and one set of resultant color transparencies encompassing an area within approximately a two-kilometer radius of the cooling tower.