

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONTEXAS UTILITIES ELECTRIC COMPANY, ET AL.DOCKET NO. 50-445ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an exemption from the scheduler requirements of 10 CFR 50.71(e)(3)(i) to Texas Utilities Electric Company, et al. (the licensee) for the Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station, Unit No. 1, located in Somervell County, Texas.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTIdentification of Proposed Action

The proposed action would grant an exemption from the requirement of 10 CFR 50.71(e)(3)(i) to submit an updated Final Safety Analysis Report (UFSAR) for Unit 1 of the Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station within 24 months of the issuance of the operating license. The operating license was issued for Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station, Unit No. 1, on April 17, 1990. By letter dated April 1, 1991, the licensee requested an exemption from 10 CFR 50.71(e)(3)(i) which would defer submittal of the UFSAR for Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station, Unit 1, until two years following receipt of a low-power operating license for Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station, Unit 2, on the basis that the present FSAR applies to both units. The FSAR has been amended and will continue to be amended until Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station, Unit 2, is licensed.

The Need for the Proposed Action

Section 50.34 of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations requires that, until Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station, Unit 2, receives an operating license, the information contained in the FSAR docketed with the operating

license application be maintained current. Hence, if an extension to the submittal date for the UFSAR is not granted, the licensee would be required to maintain current both the present FSAR as well as the UFSAR until Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station, Unit 2, is licensed. Maintaining two versions of the same document for the two Comanche Peak units would cause a hardship and would serve no useful purpose if the existing FSAR is maintained up-to-date until Unit 2 is licensed.

Therefore, an extension is needed to eliminate the hardship of maintaining two versions of the same document. Until Unit 2 receives an operating license, the licensee has committed to maintain the present FSAR current for both units by periodically amending the document.

Environmental Impact of the Proposed Action

The proposed exemption affects only the required date for submitting the UFSAR and does not affect the risk of facility accidents. Thus, post-accident radiological releases will not differ from those determined previously, and the proposed exemption does not otherwise affect facility radiological effluents, or any significant occupational exposures. With regard to potential non-radiological impacts, the proposed exemption does not affect plant non-radiological effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no measurable radiological or non-radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed exemption.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action

Since the Commission has concluded there is no measurable environmental impact associated with the proposed exemption, any alternatives either will have no environmental impact or will have a greater environmental impact. The principal alternative to the exemption would be to require an earlier date

for submittal of the UFSAR. Such an action would not enhance the protection of the environment and would result in unnecessary hardship of maintaining two versions of the same document.

Alternative Use of Resources

This action does not involve the use of resources not considered previously in the Final Environmental Statement for Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station, Units 1 and 2, dated September 1981 and Supplement dated October 1989.

Agencies and Persons Contacted

The NRC staff reviewed the licensee's request and did not consult other agencies or persons.

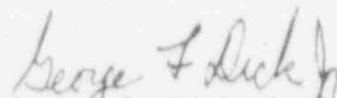
Finding of No Significant Impact

The Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed exemption. Based upon the environmental assessment, the NRC staff concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

For further details with respect to this proposed action, see the licensee's letter dated April 1, 1991. The letter is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. and at the University of Texas at Arlington Library, Government Publications/Maps, 701 South Cooper, P. O. Box 19297, Arlington, Texas 76019.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 20th day of May 1991.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



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