



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

RELATED TO AMENDMENT NOS. 156 AND 129 TO

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NOS. DPR-51 AND NPF-6

ENERGY OPERATIONS, INC.

ARKANSAS NUCLEAR ONE, UNIT NOS. 1 AND 2

DOCKET NOS. 50-313 AND 50-368

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated October 15, 1991, Entergy Operations, Inc. (the licensee) submitted a request for changes to the Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit Nos. 1 and 2 (ANO-1&2), Technical Specifications (TS). The requested changes would revise ANO-1 TS 3.16 and 4.16 and ANO-2 TS 3/4.7.8 by replacing the existing snubber visual inspection schedules and the surveillance requirements for visual acceptance criteria in accordance with the intent of NRC Generic Letter (GL) 90-09.

2.0 EVALUATION

The snubber visual examination schedule in the existing TS is based on the permissible number of inoperable snubbers found during the visual examination. Because the existing snubber visual examination schedule is based only on the absolute number of inoperable snubbers found during the visual examinations irrespective of the total population of snubbers, licensees with a large snubber population find the visual inspection schedule excessively restrictive. The purpose of the alternative examination schedule is to allow the licensee to perform visual examinations and corrective actions during plant outages without reducing the confidence level provided by the existing examination schedule. The new visual examination schedule specifies the permissible number of inoperable snubbers for various snubber populations. The basic examination interval is the normal fuel cycle up to 24 months. Depending on the number of unacceptable snubbers found during the visual examination, this interval may be extended to as long as twice the fuel cycle or reduced to as short as two-thirds of the fuel cycle. The examination interval may vary by plus or minus 25 percent to make the examination coincide with the actual outage.

In the event that one or more snubbers are found inoperable during a visual examination, the Limiting Conditions for Operation (LCO) in the present TS require the licensee to restore or replace the inoperable snubber(s) to operable status within 72 hours or declare the attached system inoperable and follow the appropriate action statement for that system. This LCO will remain in the TS; however, the permissible number of inoperable snubbers and the subsequent visual examination interval will now be determined in accordance

with the new visual examination schedule (Table 1 of GL 90-09 dated December 11, 1990). As noted in the guidance for this line item TS improvement, certain corrective actions may have to be performed, depending on the number of inoperable snubbers found. All requirements for corrective actions and evaluations associated with the use of the visual examination schedule and stated in Footnotes 1 through 7 (Table 1 of GL 90-09) shall be included in the TS.

The licensee has proposed changes to ANO-1 TS 3.16 and 4.16 and ANO-2 TS 3/4,7.8 that are consistent with the guidance provided in GL 90-09 for the replacement of the snubber visual examination schedule with Table 1 (including Footnotes 1 through 7) of GL 90-09. On the basis of its review of this matter, the staff finds that the proposed changes to the TS for ANO-1&2 are acceptable.

3.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the Arkansas State official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendment. The State official had no comment.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendments involve changes in surveillance requirements, but there is no significant increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types, of any effluents that may be released offsite, and 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 (56 FR 60116). 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 the amendments.

5.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission 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, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendments will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributor: R. Twigg

Date: January 15, 1992