

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONLONG ISLAND LIGHTING COMPANYDOCKET NO. 50-322ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an exemption to the Long Island Lighting Company (LILCO, or the licensee), in connection with its Shoreham Nuclear Power Station, Unit 1 (SNPS), located in Suffolk County, New York. The exemption would grant relief from certain security requirements of 10 CFR 73.55 that are no longer necessary for a nuclear facility that is in a shutdown and permanently defueled condition such as SNPS.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTIdentification of Proposed Action:

The exemption will modify security requirements to eliminate certain vital areas and equipment, systems and procedures, and reduce the number of required armed responders, which are now unnecessary for SNPS, as it is a nuclear facility that is in a shutdown and permanently defueled condition. SNPS is a boiling water reactor that was licensed for commercial operation from April 21, 1989 to June 14, 1991.

Need for Proposed Action:

The exemption is necessary to grant relief from physical security requirements that are inappropriate for a facility in a shutdown and permanently defueled condition.

Environmental Impact of the Proposed Action:

The proposed action will have no environmental impact because (1) SNPS is shutdown and permanently defueled, (2) LILCO is not allowed to put fuel back into the reactor building without prior Commission approval, and (3) potential offsite exposures from accidents are reduced to less than Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) protective action guidelines (PAG). Thus, an act of sabotage that would result in a significant offsite radiological release is no longer a credible event at SNPS.

The licensee's analysis demonstrated that the potential risk to the public is significantly reduced and the range of credible accidents and accident consequences are limited after the shutdown and defueling of SNPS. The worst case accident for this facility is a fuel handling accident. The licensee's analysis shows that the offsite doses resulting from a fuel handling accident would not exceed the EPA PAGs offsite. For example, the lower level EPA guideline for protective action is 1 Rem whole-body dose. The licensee's analysis shows that, for a fuel handling accident, the integrated whole-body and skin doses are less than 0.00005 percent of the 10 CFR Part 100 limits.

The staff has also determined that the proposed action involves no increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types of radiological effluents that may be released offsite and that there would be no increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposures.

With regard to nonradiological impacts, the proposed action does not affect nonradiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Alternative to the Proposed Action:

Since the Commission concluded that there are no significant environmental impacts associated with the proposed exemption, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impacts need not be evaluated.

The principal alternative would be to deny the requested action. This would not reduce environmental impacts associated with present level of plant activities.

Alternative Use of Resource:

This action does not involve the use of resources not previously considered in connection with the Final Environmental Statement related to the operation of the SNPS (NUREG-0285), dated October 1977.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

The NRC staff reviewed the licensee's request that supports the proposed action, and did not consult other agencies or persons.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

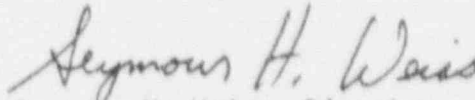
Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, the Commission concludes that the proposed actions will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Therefore, the Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed exemption.

For further details with respect to this action, see the licensee's application of October 9, 1990, as supplemented on November 4 and 8, 1991. These documents are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public

Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20555,
and the local public document room at the Shoreham-Wading River Public Library,
Route 25A, Shoreham, New York 11786-9697.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 21st day of January 1992.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



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