

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of

GENERAL PUBLIC UTILITIES NUCLEAR
CORPORATION, ET AL
(Three Mile Island Nuclear Station,
Unit No. 1)

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Docket No. 50-289

EXEMPTION

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I.

The General Public Utilities Nuclear Corporation (the licensee), and three other co-owners are the holders of Facility Operating License No. DPR-50, which authorizes the operation of Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit No. 1 (the facility) located in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania.

The license is subject to all rules and regulations of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission).

II.

10 CFR 50.48, "Fire Protection," and Appendix R to 10 CFR Part 50, "Fire Protection Program for Nuclear Power Facilities Operating Prior to January 1, 1979" set forth certain specific fire protection features required to satisfy the General Design Criterion related to fire protection (Criterion 3, Appendix A to 10 CFR 50).

Section III.G of Appendix R requires fire protection for equipment important to safe shutdown. Such fire protection is achieved by various combinations of fire barriers, fire suppression systems, fire detectors,

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and separation of safety trains (III.G.2) or alternate safe shutdown equipment free of the fire area (III.G.3). The objective of this protection is to assure that one train of equipment needed for hot shutdown would be undamaged by fire, and that systems needed for cold shutdown could be repaired within 72 hours (III.G.1).

III.

By letter dated July 1, 1982, the licensee requested exemptions from the technical requirements of Section III.G.2 of Appendix R to 10 CFR 50 for various areas of the facility. By letters dated December 2, 1982, and April 8, 1983, the licensee provided additional information regarding the exemption requests, modified certain of the requests, and withdrew one request. The remaining requested exemptions and the Commission's decision on each one are noted below.

1. III.G.2; Reactor Building Outside Secondary Shield, North; Exemption requested from requirement to install noncombustible radiant energy shield. Granted.
2. III.G.2; Heat Exchanger Vault; Exemption requested from requirement for physical separation and/or a fire suppression system. Granted.
3. III.G.2; Valve Gallery; Exemption requested from the requirement for an automatic fire suppression system. Granted.
4. III.G.2; Engineered Safeguards Motor Center B; Exemption requested from the requirement for an automatic fire suppression system. Granted.
5. III.G.2; Penetration Area; Exemption requested from the requirement for one-hour fire rated barriers. Granted.
6. III.G.2; IR Switchgear Area; Exemption requested from the requirement for one-hour fire rated barriers. Granted.

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7. III.G.2; IT Switchgear Area; Exemption requested from the requirement for one-hour fire rated barriers. Granted.
8. III.G.2; Control Building Health Physics and Lab Area; Exemption requested from the requirement for an automatic fire suppression system. Granted.
9. III.G.2; General Area - Elevation 281 Feet; Exemption requested from the requirement for an automatic fire suppression system and an area-wide fire detection system. Granted.
10. III.G.2; Demineralizers and Motor Control Center A; Exemption requested from the requirement for a one-hour fire rated barrier and an automatic fire suppression system. Granted.
11. III.G.2; Valve Gallery and Penetration Room; Exemption requested from the requirement for a one-hour fire rated barrier and an automatic fire suppression system. Granted.
12. III.G.2; Motor Driven Emergency Feedwater Pump Area; Exemption requested from the requirement for a one-hour fire rated barrier and an automatic fire suppression system. Granted.
13. III.G.2; Decay Heat Removal and Nuclear Service Closed Cycle Cooling Pump Area; Exemption requested from the requirement for a one-hour fire rated barrier and an automatic fire suppression system. Granted.

Additional discussion and evaluation of each exemption request is contained in the NRC staff's Safety Evaluation (SE) which is printed in its entirety below.

The above exemptions are contingent upon the licensee's maintenance of administrative control of transient combustibles which are equivalent to those specified in Section III.K.1 through III.K.8 of Appendix R to 10 CFR 50 and any characterization of transient combustibles or design features which are specifically discussed in the NRC staff's SE.

IV.

Accordingly, the Commission has determined that, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.12, the exemptions requested by the licensee's letters as referenced

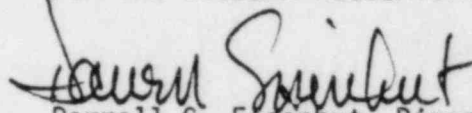
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and discussed in III. above are authorized by law, will not endanger life or property or the common defense and security, are otherwise in the public interest, and are hereby granted.

The Commission has determined that the granting of these exemptions will not result in any significant environmental impact and that pursuant to 10 CFR 51.5(d)(4) an environmental impact statement or negative declaration and environmental impact appraisal need not be prepared in connection with this action.

This Exemption is effective upon issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Darrell G. Eisenhut, Director
Division of Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland
this 4th day of June 1984