



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

SUPPORTING AMENDMENT NO. 78 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSING NO. DPR-66

DUQUESNE LIGHT COMPANY

OHIO EDISON COMPANY

PENNSYLVANIA POWER COMPANY

BEAVER VALLEY POWER STATION, UNIT NO. 1

DOCKET NO. 50-334

INTRODUCTION

By letter dated November 17, 1983, Duquesne Light Company (the licensee) proposed to change the Technical Specifications set forth in Appendix A to the license by deleting the Mechanical Vacuum Pump technical specification and bases. No physical changes to the facility or equipment will be made as a result of this change. The Mechanical Vacuum pumps are installed in the facility and may continue to be used as needed by the licensee similarly to other equipment without technical specifications.

EVALUATION and DISCUSSION

The containment Mechanical Vacuum Pumps, two total, are part of the containment vacuum system and are used during normal operations to maintain containment internal pressure within limits. The containment vacuum system is not an engineered safety features system and the Mechanical Vacuum Pumps are not engineered safety feature equipment. The pumps do not prevent or mitigate design-bases accidents. Each has about 5 cfm capacity and their operation requires manual action by operators. The pumps discharge to the gaseous waste disposal system. They are standard design and without special requirements for exotic long-lead-time replacement parts. A complete replacement pump is maintained at the BVPS. The system design allows time for defective pump replacement or repair.

A containment steam vacuum ejector is the equipment used during start-up to reduce the containment pressure from atmospheric to subatmospheric in accordance with the normal start-up schedule. The containment Quench and Recirculation Spray Systems are used in the event of a DBA (Design Basis Accident) to ensure that containment depressurization and return to subatmospheric pressure will occur within one hour of the DBA event. During DBA conditions, the containment Mechanical Vacuum Pumps are automatically isolated and are not used to depressurize the containment.

Technical specification 3.6.1.4 is the controlling and more restrictive specification for primary containment internal air partial pressure and will not be affected by the removal of the Mechanical Vacuum pump specification and bases.

The staff finds that the proposed change to delete the Mechanical Vacuum pump specification and bases will not involve any physical change to the plant safety related systems, components or structures, will not increase the likelihood of a malfunction of safety related equipment, will not increase the consequences of an accident previously analyzed, nor create the possibility of a malfunction different from those previously evaluated. The staff therefore finds the licensee's requested change to delete the Mechanical Vacuum pump technical specification and bases to be acceptable.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

This amendment involves a change in the installation or use of a facility component located within the restricted area. The staff has determined that the amendment involves no significant increase in the amounts of any effluents that may be released offsite and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupation radiation exposure. The Commission has previously issued a proposed finding that this amendment involves no significant hazards consideration and there has been no public comment on such finding. Accordingly, this amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR Sec 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 this amendment.

CONCLUSION

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

Dated: June 19, 1984

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