

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONDUQUESNE LIGHT COMPANYOHIO EDISON COMPANYPENNSYLVANIA POWER COMPANYDOCKET NO. 50-334NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OFNO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an exemption from the requirements of Appendix J to 10 CFR 50 to Duquesne Light Company (the licensee), for the Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit No. 1, located in Shippingport, Pennsylvania.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of Proposed Action: Section III.D.2(b)(ii) of Appendix J, 10 CFR 50, states that "Air locks opened during periods when containment integrity is not required by the plan. Technical Specifications shall be tested at the end of such periods at not less than Pa". Duquesne Light Company has requested that the Beaver Valley Unit No. 1 Technical Specification be changed to require an overall air lock leak rate test at Pa (38.3 psig) to be performed "Upon completion of maintenance which has been performed on the air lock that could affect the air lock sealing capability". This requested Technical Specification change, while deviating literally from the regulation, nevertheless reflects the staff's current position on post-maintenance air lock test schedule, as is shown in the Standard Technical Specifications for Westinghouse Pressurized Water

Reactors (NUREG-0452, Rev. 4). In order to grant the requested amendment, however, an Exemption to the present regulation must first be granted.

The Need for the Proposed Action: The proposed exemption is needed because the air lock test schedule described in the licensee's request conforms with the staff's present position on the subject matter. Literal compliance would not significantly enhance the air lock sealing capability.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action: The proposed exemption will ensure the air locks to have a sealing capacity which meets the objectives of Appendix J. Consequently, the probability of leakage through the air locks has not been increased, and the post-accident radiological releases will not be greater than previously determined, nor does the proposed exemption otherwise affect radiological plant effluents. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with this proposed exemption.

With regard to potential non-radiological impacts, the proposed exemption involves features located entirely within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. It does not affect non-radiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant non-radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed exemption.

Alternative Use of Resources: This action involves no use of resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement (construction permit and operating license) for the Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit No. 1.

Agencies and Persons Consulted: 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 foregoing environmental assessment, we conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for the amendment and exemption dated July 14, 1983, and supplement dated May 7, 1984, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., and at the B. F. Jones Memorial Library, 663 Franklin Avenue, Aliquippa, Pennsylvania 15001.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland this 1st day of August 1984.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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