

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
GPU NUCLEAR CORPORATION AND  
JERSEY CENTRAL POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY  
DOCKET NO. 50-219  
NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF  
NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 50.48(c)(4) to GPU Nuclear Corporation and Jersey Central Power and Light Company (the licensees) for the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station located in Ocean County, New Jersey.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of Proposed Action: The exemption would grant the licensees a schedular deferment from the provisions of Appendix R, Section III.G.2, fire protection of the equipment used for safe shutdown by means of separation and barriers, from the current cycle 10 refueling outage to the cycle 11 refueling outage. The exemption is responsive to the licensees' application for exemption dated July 11, 1984.

The Need for the Proposed Action: Appendix R, Section III.G.2 requires a licensee authorized to operate a nuclear power reactor to provide fire protection for equipment used for safe shutdown by means of separation and barriers. The schedular requirements of 10 CFR 50.48(c)(4) call for the implementation of modifications before startup after the earliest of the following events commencing 180 days after Commission approval:

- (1) The first refueling outage;
- (2) Another planned outage that lasts for at least 60 days; or
- (3) An unplanned outage that lasts for at least 120 days.

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In a submittal dated July 11, 1984, the licensees requested that the implementation schedule for the proposed fire protection modification at Oyster Creek be extended until the end of the cycle 11 refueling outage scheduled for the Fall of 1985.

The level of modification work associated with the current outage does not permit significant additional work to be added to the outage work scope without delaying restart of the plant. It should be noted that the extension of the present outage has been caused by additional work scope which was developed during the outage and thus does not represent an opportunity to add still more work. Some of the additional work scope was in response to NRC requirements, such as post-accident sampling and masonry block wall modifications which GPUN had earlier proposed to defer. The licensees plan to resume the engineering and procurement activities on a schedule consistent with installation of this modification during the Cycle 11 refueling outage.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action: By using reasonable interim compensatory measures and/or procedures the proposed exemption will provide a degree of fire protection such that there is no significant increase in the risk of fires at this facility. Consequently, the probability of fires has not been increased and the post-fire 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.

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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 dated December 1974 for the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station.

Agencies and Persons Consulted: The NRC staff reviewed the licensees' 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 exemption dated July 11, 1984, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20555, and at the Oyster Creek Local Public Document Room, 101 Washington Street, Toms River, New Jersey 08753.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland this 20 day of August 1984.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Darrell G. Eisenhut".

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