

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
DUKE POWER COMPANY
DOCKET NOS. 50-369 AND 50-370
MCGUIRE NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF
NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of amendments to Facility Operating License Nos. NPF-9 and NPF-17, issued to Duke Power Company (the licensee), for operation of the McGuire Nuclear Station, located in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of the Proposed Action:

The proposed action would revise the current combined Technical Specifications for Unit 1 and Unit 2 by separating them into individual volumes for each unit.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application for amendments dated July 18, 1994, as supplemented by letter dated October 9, 1995.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed action would facilitate Technical Specification changes when it was required to be done separately for each unit. This would especially be important when, for a period of time, Unit 1 will have different steam generators than Unit 2.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed action and concludes that the changes proposed by the licensee are administrative in nature and have no nonradiological or radiological environmental significance.

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The change will not increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types of any effluents that may be released offsite, and there is no significant increase in the allowable individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed action does involve features located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. It does not affect nonradiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action:

Since the Commission has concluded there is no measurable environmental impact associated with the proposed action, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impact need not be evaluated. As an alternative to the proposed action, the staff considered denial of the proposed action. Denial of the application would result in no change in current environmental impacts. The environmental impacts of the proposed action and the alternative action are similar.

Alternative Use of Resources:

This action does not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement for the McGuire Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

In accordance with its stated policy, on January 4, 1996, the staff consulted with the North Carolina official, Mr. J. James of the Division of Radiation Protection, North Carolina Department of Environment, Health and Natural Resources, regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comments.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

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

For further details with respect to the proposed action, see the licensee's letter dated July 18, 1994, as supplemented by letter dated October 9, 1995, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, The Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room located at the Atkins Library, University of North Carolina, Charlotte (UNCC Station), North Carolina.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 7th day of February 1996.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



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