



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NOS. 132 AND 136 TO
FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NOS. DPR-24 AND DPR-27

WISCONSIN ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY
POINT BEACH NUCLEAR PLANT, UNIT NOS. 1 AND 2
DOCKET NOS. 50-266 AND 50-301

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated August 9, 1991 Wisconsin Electric Power Company (WE) submitted Technical Specification Change Request Number 146. This change is related to the load testing of the emergency diesel generators (EDG). The proposed change would revise the diesel generator testing requirements in Technical Specification 15.4.6, "Emergency Power System Periodic Tests." The existing specification requires that the automatic start tests ensure that the diesel generators "...will start and assume required load in less than the periods listed." in the Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR) Section 8.2. The change requires that the generators "...assume required load in accordance with the timing sequence listed..." in the FSAR.

2.0 EVALUATION

The staff evaluation is based on the explanation in the application letter of August 9, 1991. The proposed change will revise specification 15.4.6.A.2 which presently requires that the EDG start and assume loads in less than the time periods specified in the Point Beach FSAR. The present TS acceptance criterion could lead to a situation where sequencing the consecutive loads would result in overloading the EDG. The proposed TS change to modify the EDG sequence loading eliminates overlap of loads but will ensure that the EDG will assume the required loads in accordance with the timing sequence as listed in the FSAR.

The present requirement could result in two or more loads sequencing onto the EDG at the same time or prior to the time when EDG voltage and frequency have recovered from starting a previous load. The TS change will establish a timing sequence that assures that sufficient time is allotted between the loads to permit the generator voltage and frequency to return to nominal. This will add assurance that an EDG overload will not occur.

This change will not affect the operability of the equipment that is necessary for safe shutdown or accident prevention and mitigation. Load sequencing times will remain within the limits established in the FSAR and will prevent generator overloading, thereby adding a margin of safety under conditions where the EDG is required to assume the loads.

3.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the Wisconsin State official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendment. The State official had no comments.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

These amendments involve a change in the installation or use of a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20 or change an inspection or surveillance requirement. The staff has determined that the amendments involve no significant increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types, of any effluents that may be released off-site, and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The Commission has previously published a proposed finding that these amendments involve no significant hazards consideration and there has been no public comment on such finding (57 FR 4496). Accordingly, these amendments meet the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR §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 these amendments.

5.0 CONCLUSION

The staff has 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, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendments will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

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