



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 151 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-20
CONSUMERS POWER COMPANY
PALISADES PLANT
DOCKET NO. 50-255

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated September 27, 1991, Consumers Power Company (CPC or the licensee) requested an amendment to the Technical Specifications (TS) appended to Facility Operating License No. DPR-20 for the Palisades Plant. The amendment request dated September 27, 1991, clarified and supplemented a previous request dated October 20, 1986, as amended April 30, 1987.

Consumers Power Company submitted a Technical Specification Change Request on October 20, 1986 which included a correction to Specification 5.2.3.a. The NRC issued Amendment No. 104 to the Palisades License on March 24, 1987 stating that the proposed change to Specification 5.2.3.a. would be the subject of future action. On April 30, 1987, CPC submitted a revision to the October 20, 1986, submittal which included a correction to Specification 5.2.3.a.; however, no amendment was issued which included this revision. Since that time, CPC has completed an evaluation of the containment air cooler design. The results of this evaluation are included in a report (NEA 923) prepared by American Air Filter entitled, "Investigation of Cooler Performance Prediction for Containment Air Coolers at the Palisades Nuclear Station," dated October 6, 1989. The results presented in that report indicate that with a total flow of 5580 gpm and an inlet temperature of 85°, Containment Air Coolers have a design heat removal rate of 230 x BTU/hr.

2.0 EVALUATION

The proposed amendment changes the TS by correcting an erroneous statement with regards to the amount of cooling water flow to the Containment Air Coolers (CACs). Technical Specification Section 5.2.3.a currently states that three CACs, each with a cooling water flow of 4875 gpm with an inlet temperature of 75°F, will remove 229 million BTU/hr of heat.

Based on the results of an evaluation of the CAC design, the licensee proposes that TS Section 5.2.3.a be revised as follows:

"...Three units, with a total cooling water flow of 5580 gpm and with an inlet temperature of 85°F, will remove $.30 \times 10^6$ BTU/hr of heat."

The NRC staff has reviewed the information provided by licensee in support of the proposed TS change including the American Air Filter report NESE 923. Based on our review, we find the proposed change to TS Section 5.2.3.a acceptable.

3.0 STATE CONSULTATION

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

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendment changes a requirement with respect to the installation or use of a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. The staff has determined that the amendment involves no significant increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types, of any effluents that may be released offsite, and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational 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 (57 FR 24669) (see also 55 FR 10530). Accordingly, this amendment meets 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 this amendment.

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 amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

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Date: July 28, 1992