

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
POWER AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
DOCKET NO. 50-333
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 Appendix R to 10 CFR 50 to Power Authority of the State of New York (the licensee), for the James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant, located in Oswego County, New York.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of Proposed Action: The exemption would relax the requirements to provide a 3-hour fire barrier between redundant shutdown divisions and to provide at least 20 feet of separation without intervening combustibles between redundant shutdown divisions at certain zone boundaries within the crescent area of the reactor building. The licensee would install either a fire barrier of lesser rating or a water curtain in place of a 3-hour barrier around four open stairways and would install water curtains between redundant shutdown divisions in place of the above separation requirement.

The Need for the Proposed Action: The proposed exemption is needed because the existing level of fire protection and proposed modifications for the FitzPatrick facility, as described in the licensee's request, represent the most practical method for meeting the intent of Appendix P. Literal

compliance would not significantly enhance the fire protection capability. Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action: The proposed exemption will provide a degree of fire protection that is equivalent to that required by Appendix R for other areas of the plant such that there is no 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.

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 James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant.

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

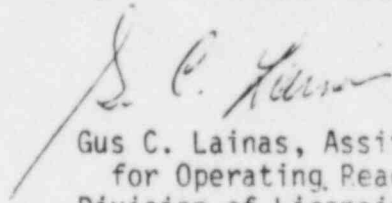
The Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed exemption.

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 exemption dated February 26, 1982, and supplements dated July 13 and November 11, 1982; March 1, April 5, and May 19, 1983; and July 16, 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 Penfield Library, State University College of Oswego, Oswego, New York.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland this 9th day of November, 1984.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION


Gus C. Lainas, Assistant Director
for Operating Reactors
Division of Licensing