



UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20545

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Docket No. 50-219

AUG 5 1974

Jersey Central Power & Light Company
ATTN: Mr. I. R. Finfrock, Jr.
Vice President - Generation
Madison Avenue at Punch Bowl Road
Morristown, New Jersey 07960

Gentlemen:

The Director of Regulation has determined that good cause has been shown in your request of June 19, 1974, for extending the time until December 11, 1974, under conditions set forth in the enclosed Determination, for submission of the required ECCS evaluation for the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station. In addition, the proposed initial operational restrictions are to be submitted no later than August 22, 1974. The conditions and basis for the extension and additional submittal are set forth in the enclosed Determination, a copy of which is being filed with the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

Karl R. Goller, Assistant Director
for Operating Reactors
Directorate of Licensing

Enclosure:
Determination

cc: w/enclosure
See next page

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cc w/enclosure

G. F. Trowbridge, Esquire
Shaw, Pittman, Potts, Trowbridge
and Madden
910 - 17th Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20006

GPU Service Corporation
ATTN: Mr. Thomas M. Crimmins
Safety & Licensing Manager
260 Cherry Hill Road
Parsippany, New Jersey 07054

Anthony Z. Roisman, Esquire
Berlin, Roisman and Kessler
1712 N Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

Paul Rosenberg, Esquire
Daniel Rappoport, Esquire
2323 S. Broad Street
Trenton, New Jersey 08610

Honorable William W. Mason
Major, Lacey Township
P. O. Box 475
Forked River, New Jersey 08731

Ocean County Library
15 Hooper Avenue
Toms River, New Jersey 08753

George F. Kugler, Jr.
Attorney General
State of New Jersey
State House Annex
Trenton, New Jersey 08265
(w/cy of incoming DTD 6/19/74)

UNITED STATES ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. 50-219

JERSEY CENTRAL POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY

DETERMINATION OF REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME
FOR SUBMITTAL OF EVALUATIONS REQUIRED BY ACCEPTANCE
CRITERIA FOR EMERGENCY CORE COOLING SYSTEMS (10 CFR
§ 50.46(a)(2)(iii))

As required by 10 CFR subsection 50.46(a)(2), certain licensees must achieve compliance with acceptance criteria for emergency core cooling systems (ECCS) published in Appendix K to 10 CFR Part 50, by August 5, 1974, unless an extension of time for submission of the required ECCS performance evaluation and proposed Technical Specifications has been approved by the Director of Regulation pursuant to 10 CFR subsection 50.46(a)(2)(iii). As required by 10 CFR subsection 50.46(a)(2)(iii), a Notice was published in the Federal Register on July 10, 1974, (39 F.R. 25415) that the Director of Regulation had received and was considering a request from the Jersey Central Power & Light Company (the licensee) for an extension of time until December 23, 1974 of the submittal date for the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station (Oyster Creek) ECCS evaluation. The licensee also requested an exemption from the operating requirements of 10 CFR section 50.46; the Commission has this request under consideration and has published a notice to this effect.

The Notice published July 10, 1974, invited the submission of views and comments by any interested persons on the licensee's request. Comments have been received from Friends of the Earth and Consolidated National intervenors. These groups oppose the granting of the extension as requested on the grounds that the licensee's application does not

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present sufficient evidence to demonstrate why the vendor's analyses are delayed or why the licensee's review requires excessive time for completion.

The Regulatory staff has taken these comments into account in reaching its determination reflected herein. In this regard, the Regulatory staff believes that, as noted below, the licensee has shown good cause for the granting of extension of time. The staff did not consider in its determination of good cause the need for additional time in which to file an exemption request.

In support of its request for an extension of time, the licensee states that the Oyster Creek facility is powered by a General Electric nuclear steam supply system (NSSS) which contains two types of fuel supplied by Exxon Nuclear Company (EXXON). The NSSS and five individual fuel types must be evaluated in order to determine, pursuant to the Commission's criteria, whether Oyster Creek's ECCS is satisfactory. Furthermore, the licensee states that they do not have the capability for ECCS model development and are dependent, therefore for schedule purposes on the performance of particular vendors and fuel suppliers.

In their request, the licensee stated that the blowdown analysis and the LOCA analysis for the GE fuel assemblies now in the Oyster Creek reactor will not be available from GE prior to September 30, 1974. Thus, GE's development schedule precludes detailed technical review of the LOCA analysis model by General Public Utility Service Company (GPUSC) (the licensee's sister subsidiary company) for the licensee until after the specified August 5, 1974 submittal date. GPUSC requires three weeks for technical review of the LOCA analysis, and the licensee

requires three weeks for the operations and safety committee reviews (pursuant to the Oyster Creek operating license and Appendix B of 10 CFR Part 50) and final approval. The licensee estimated the date for submittal of the analysis of the GE fuel to be November 11, 1974. Similarly the licensee has requested that Exxon provide the complete LOCA analysis of the Exxon fuel in the Oyster Creek core. Exxon requires six weeks from receipt of the GE blowdown analysis results to evaluate the performance of the three types of Exxon fuel in the core. Technical, operations, and safety review of this material is expected to consume six weeks. Thus, the licensee estimates the date for submittal of the analysis of Exxon fuel in the Oyster Creek facility is December 23, 1974.

It is evident from the licensee's request that the basis for an extension of time is the unavailability of the necessary evaluation models and analyses from GE and Exxon. Since the promulgation of the regulation, the Regulatory staff has been engaged in a continuing effort to develop an AEC evaluation model which would meet the requirements of Appendix K of 10 CFR Part 50. A similar effort has been underway by the four vendors of nuclear steam supply systems for light-water nuclear power reactors, including GE. As the Regulatory staff recognizes from its efforts, this development work has involved a considerable amount of time.

Furthermore, the Oyster Creek reactor is an older design which requires significant changes in the evaluation models now being calculated for General Electric's newer designs. GE and Exxon must

prepare separate evaluation models and analyses which are tailored to the Oyster Creek reactor and which will involve additional time beyond the time estimated for submission of the evaluation models for the newer designs.

Based upon the Regulatory staff's own experience and its knowledge of the effort on the part of GE and Exxon to develop adequate evaluation models and analyses, the Regulatory staff believes that the licensee's statements regarding delay by GE and Exxon in completing and submitting to it an evaluation model and analyses, constitute good cause for extension of the August 5, 1974 deadline for the submittal of the information required by 10 CFR section 50.46 until December 11, 1974.

The Regulatory staff believes that excessive time is required by Exxon (6 weeks) to submit the ECCS analysis to the licensee, after Exxon's receipt of the GE blowdown analysis; about 30 calendar days represents the minimum time for completion.

During the requested extension period beyond August 5, 1974, the licensee proposes to operate the Oyster Creek facility as follows. On August 5, 1974 the licensee will institute voluntary restrictions on the operating conditions of the facility. The restrictions will be based initially on the best information available at the time - - the interim results of the GE analysis and the preliminary Exxon LOCA analysis (calculated using the results of

GE's Interim Acceptance Criteria (IAC) blowdown analysis). These analyses are expected to be supplied by GE and Exxon to the licensee by July 24, 1974, and July 31, 1974, respectively. Thereafter, operational restrictions may be varied but only until the analyses are finalized and proposed modifications to the restrictions are submitted to reflect updated calculations. The licensee will advise the Commission as new information becomes available and will review this information with the Commission on a timely basis.

Recognizing that the restrictions proposed by the licensee will be more restrictive than those imposed by the IAC, this interim, voluntary restriction on operating reactor conditions is acceptable to the staff. However, the Regulatory staff believes a preliminary evaluation, based on conservative assumptions, but not necessarily including all of the detail and documentation called for by Appendix K, but which nevertheless provides a conservative assessment of ECCS performance under the Commission Acceptance Criteria, should be submitted to the Director of Regulation by August 22, 1974. The staff recognizes that simplifying, but conservative, assumptions must be made in order to provide the evaluation by August 22, 1974, but the submittal must present details of such assumptions and estimates and supporting discussion to demonstrate that the preliminary evaluation meets the Commission's acceptance criteria, and include proposed operating limits, if any, required to bring the reactor into conformity with the Commission's acceptance criteria.

Upon receipt of the final evaluation models and analyses from the vendors, the licensee shall submit copies of the final ECCS analyses by GE and Exxon immediately upon his receipt of these analyses, but no later than September 30, 1974 for GE and October 30, 1974 for Exxon, for review by the Regulatory staff concurrent with licensee review.

Accordingly, based on the foregoing considerations and for good cause shown, the Director of Regulation hereby grants an extension of time to the licensee which extends the date for compliance with the requirements of 10 CFR subsection 50.46(a)(2)(ii) from August 5, 1974 until December 11, 1974, provided that:

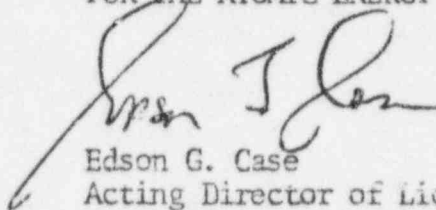
- 1) The licensee submits on or before August 22, 1974 a preliminary evaluation of ECCS performance consistent with the requirements of Appendix K although not necessarily containing the full detail and the full documentation called for in Appendix K but which nevertheless provides a conservative assessment of ECCS performance under the Commission's Acceptance Criteria,
- 2) The licensee submits on or before August 22, 1974 proposed Technical Specification changes required to bring reactor operation into conformity with results of the preliminary analyses and the IAC,
- 3) The licensee, no later than August 22, 1974, operates the reactor within the limits of the then proposed technical specification

changes and all technical specifications previously imposed by the Commission, including the requirements of the Interim Policy Statement (36 F.R. 12247, as amended by 36 F.R. 24082, December 18, 1971), unless the licensee files a request for exemption from such requirements with the Commission in accordance with 10 CFR section 50.46, and such request is granted.

- 4) The licensee submits copies of the final ECCS analyses by GE and Exxon immediately on his receipt of these analyses, but no later than September 30, 1974, for GE and October 30, 1974, for Exxon, and
- 5) The licensee submits on or before December 11, 1974, his completed evaluation and proposed technical specifications pursuant to 10 CFR section 50.46(a)(2)(ii).

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland this ^{3rd} day of August, 1974.

FOR THE ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION



Edson G. Case
Acting Director of Licensing