

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

AMENDMENT NO. 20 TO NPF-11 AND AMENDMENT NO. 7 TO NPF-18 LA SALLE COUNTY STATION, UNITS 1 & 2 DOCKET NOS. 50-373 AND 50-374

Introduction

By letter dated September 19, 1984 and as modified by letter dated October 5, 1984, Commonwealth Edison Company (the licensee) proposed amendments requesting changes to the La Salle Units 1 and 2 Technical Specifications consistent with a design change in the location of the reactor water cleanup (RWCU) pumps to a point in the system containing lower water temperature. The Technical Specifications changes would eliminate the requirement to specify limits on the ambient and differential temperature measurements in the RWCU pumps in Tables 3.3.2-1, 3.3.2-2, 3.3.2-3, and 4.3.2-1.

Evaluation

In the original RWCU system design, the RWCU recirculation pumps utilized water at full operating temperature and pressure. For better pump operation based upon experience at other plants, the licensee changed the system design to locate these pumps downstream of the system heat exchangers so that pumps would utilize lower temperature water. In the original RWCU system design, the pump room leak detection system was designed for hot water which included the following instrumentation: (1) system high differential flow; (2) RWCU pump rooms (three rooms) high ambient and high differential temperature; and (3) reactor building sump high level. Items (1) and (2) provide automatic isolation signals to the RWCU system, and item (3) provides a remote alarm to the control room to allow the operator to manually isolate the RWCU system. After the RWCU system configuration change, the RWCU pumps pump low temperature water and the ambient and differential temperature monitors are no longer effective. The setpoints for the instruments are adjusted to detect the equivalent leakage limit and are very near the normal operating conditions due to the lower temperature. However, the automatic isolation provisions based on temperature were not removed from the design and were installed in the plants and included in the plants' Technical Specifications. Consequently, the licensee indicates that this has caused unnecessary spurious isolation, when no leaks were present. Sufficient diversity remains in the differential flow and reactor low water level automatic isolation to ensure that actual RWCU leakage in the pump rooms is monitored and will be promptly isolated. In addition, a ruptured RWCU system can be detected and isolated manually if area sump pumps indicate leakage in the system. Therefore, the deletion from the Technical Specification of high ambient and differential temperature isolation in the RWCU pump rooms do not involve an unreviewed safety matter because the RWCU system will still have adequate isolation capability and the leakage from the RWCU system has already been evaluated. It also does not involve a significant reduction in the margin of safety because the RWCU system will still be monitored for leakage and will still isolate if the leakage exceeds the required limits. This change deletes only temperature monitoring of the colder portion of the RWCU system where this type of monitoring is not very effective and causes unnecessary isolations.

8501140172 850108 PDR ADOCK 05000373 PDR PDR Based on the above, the NRC staff concludes that the proposed change for deleting the pump room high ambient and high differential temperature isolation from the La Salle Unit 1 and Unit 2 Technical Specifications will not increase the consequence of previously evaluated accidents or decrease the margin of safety. The proposed changes reflect the as built design of the RWCU system; and are, therefore, acceptable.

Environmental Consideration

This amendment involves a change in 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. Accordingly, this amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR Sec 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.2(b) no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of this amendment.

Conclusion

The Commission made a proposed determination that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration which was published in the Federal Register (49 FR45946) on November 21, 1984. No public comments were received.

We have 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, and (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations and the issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Dated: JAN 0 8 1985

Issuance of Amendment No. 20 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-11 La Salle County Station, Unit No. 1

Issuance of Amendment No. 7 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-18 La Salle County Station, Unit 2

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