



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

SUPPORTING AMENDMENT NO. 98 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-46

NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

COOPER NUCLEAR STATION

DOCKET NO. 50-298

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letters dated May 31, 1985 and August 21, 1985 (Change No. 22) the Nebraska Public Power District (the licensee) requested an amendment to Facility Operating License No. DPR-46 for the Cooper Nuclear Station. The proposed amendment would change the Technical Specifications (TS), to incorporate Limiting Conditions for Operating (LCO), Surveillance Requirements (SR), and Bases for the station service water pump room Halon fire suppression system and fire detectors.

2.0 DISCUSSION AND EVALUATION

By letter dated June 28, 1982, the licensee requested an exemption from the requirements of Appendix R to 10 CFR 50 for the service water intake structure due to inadequate separation between service water pumps. As part of the exemption request, the licensee proposed to install an automatic fire suppression system and a detection system. By letter dated September 21, 1983, we granted the exemption. The proposed amendment would add LCO's and SR's for the Halon system and the fire detectors to the TS.

We have reviewed the proposed TS for conformance to the staff's guidance of NUREG-0123 (BWR Standard Technical Specifications). The additional fire detectors would be included under the existing LCO's and SR's applicable to the other detectors. The licensee has not included a SR to periodically verify that each valve in the Halon flow path is in its correct position because the system includes only check valves and explosive-actuated valves. Due to restricted quarters the licensee has also not included a SR to periodically weigh the Halon tanks to verify Halon content. As an alternative, the licensee proposes to verify Halon content by use of a dipstick for each tank. The licensee has also not included a "puff test" SR to periodically verify that nozzles are unobstructed. In lieu of a puff test a visual and tactile inspection will be performed. This eliminates the need to break the mechanical integrity of the system for testing. These features are acceptable to the staff. The proposed amendment is otherwise consistent with the Standard TS and is acceptable.

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3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

This amendment changes a requirement with respect to installation or use of a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20, and changes surveillance requirements. 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 fourth 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.

4.0 CONCLUSION

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.

Principal Contributors: K. West and W. Long

Dated: April 10, 1986