

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

ENTERGY OPERATIONS, INC.

DOCKET NO. 50-328

WATERFORD STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNIT 3

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF

NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. NPF-38, issued to Entergy Operations, Inc., (the licensee), for operation of the Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3, located in St. Charles Parish, Louisiana.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of the Proposed Action:

The proposed action would revise Facility Operating License No. NPF-38 to reflect the name change from Louisiana Power & Light Company to Entergy Louisiana, Inc.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application for amendment dated July 17, 1996.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed action is to correct the name in the license to reflect the change which occurred on April 22, 1996. The name change was made by the licensee to improve customer identification by establishing the name Entergy in the region that it serves.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed action and changes to the license. We agree with the licensee that the name change will not impact the existing ownership of Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3 or the existing entitlement to power and will not alter the existing antitrust license conditions applicable to Louisiana Power & Light Company (LP&L) or LP&L's ability to comply with these conditions or with any of its other obligations or responsibilities. As stated by the licensee, "The corporate existence continues uninterrupted and all legal characteristics remain the same. Thus, there is no change in the state of incorporation, registered agent, registered office, directors, officers, rights or liabilities of the company. Nor is there a change in the function of the Company or the way in which it does business. LP&L's financial responsibility for Waterford 3 and its sources of funds to support the facility will remain the same."

Therefore, the change will not increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types of any effluents that may be released offsite, and there is no significant increase in the allowable individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed action does not affect nonradiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action:

Since the Commission has concluded there is no measurable environmental impact associated with the proposed action, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impact need not be evaluated. As an alternative to the proposed action, the staff considered denial of the proposed action. Denial of the application would result in no change in current environmental impacts. The environmental impacts of the proposed action and the alternative action are similar.

Alternative Use of Resources:

This action does not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement for the Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

In accordance with its stated policy, on April 29, 1997, the staff consulted with the Louisiana State official, Stan Shaw of the Louisiana Radiation Protection Division, regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comments.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Based upon the environmental assessment, the Commission concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, the Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed action.

For further details with respect to the proposed action, see the licensee's letter dated July 17, 1996, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, The Gelman Building,

2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room located at the University of New Orleans Library, Louisiana Collection, Lakefront Drive, New Orleans, LA 70122.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 22nd day of May, 1997.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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