



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

SUPPORTING AMENDMENT NO. 28 TO

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-38

LOUISIANA POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY

WATERFORD STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNIT 3

DOCKET NO. 50-382

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By application dated October 10, 1987, Louisiana Power and Light Company (LP&L or the licensee) requested change to Facility Operating License No. NPF-38 for Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3 (Waterford 3). The proposed change would revise Technical Specification Limiting Condition for Operation (LCO) 3.7.10.2 and its associated Surveillance Requirement 4.7.10.2 to add operability and surveillance requirements for newly-installed fire suppression equipment in the charcoal absorber sections of certain of Waterford 3's Shield Building Ventilation System (SBVS) and Controlled Ventilation Area System (CVAS).

2.0 DISCUSSION

The licensee has installed manually activated deluge suppression capability in the charcoal absorber sections of certain ventilation systems including the SBVS and CVAS. The suppression capability was added to mitigate the consequences of a fire in the charcoal absorber, the primary cause of which is considered to be autoignition of the charcoal resulting from the decay heat from captured radioactive particles absorbed on the charcoal.

LCO 3.7.10.2 specifies the number and location of sprinkler and spray systems that must be maintained in an operable condition. The proposed change would add the newly-installed charcoal filter spray system to this LCO. In addition, the proposed change adds surveillance requirement 4.7.10.2d which requires an air flow test through each open head spray or sprinkler system every three years to verify that the spray nozzles are unobstructed. This surveillance requirement is being proposed to make the Waterford 3 Technical Specification surveillance requirements more closely conform with those in the standard Technical Specifications. However, since the charcoal filter spray system nozzles can be accessed only when the charcoal has been removed, a note has been added to the proposed surveillance requirement indicating that a visual inspection of the charcoal filter system spray nozzles verifying that they are unobstructed may be performed in lieu of the air flow test. The performance of a visual inspection in lieu of an air flow test is consistent with guidance contained in National Fire Protection Association standards pertaining to the maintenance of fire protection systems and is, therefore, acceptable. The visual inspection will be performed every time the charcoal is changed.

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3.0 EVALUATION

The proposed Technical Specification changes implement requirements necessary to demonstrate operability of recently-installed deluge suppression equipment in charcoal adsorber sections of certain ventilation systems. As this equipment was added to increase the overall level of fire protection at Waterford 3, and the proposed Technical Specification change will provide the mechanism for insuring that the equipment remains operable, the staff concludes that the proposed changes to Technical Specification LCO 3.7.10.2 and its associated Surveillance Requirement 4.7.10.2 are acceptable.

4.0 CONTACT WITH STATE OFFICIAL

The NRC staff has advised the Administrator, Nuclear Energy Division, Office of Environmental Affairs, State of Louisiana of the proposed determination of no significant hazards consideration. No comments were received.

5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendment relates to changes in installation or use of a facility component located within the restricted area. 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. Accordingly, the amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth 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.

6.0 CONCLUSION

Based upon its evaluation of the proposed changes to the Waterford 3 Technical Specifications, the staff has concluded that: there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, and such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations and the issuance of the amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public. The staff, therefore, concludes that the proposed changes are acceptable, and are hereby incorporated into the Waterford 3 Technical Specifications.

Dated: February 9, 1988

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