

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONGPU NUCLEAR CORPORATIONDOCKET NO. 50-289ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OFNO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. DPR-50, issued to GPU Nuclear Corporation (the licensee), for operation of the Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit 1, located in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTIdentification of Proposed Action:

The proposed amendment would revise the Technical Specifications (TS) to support core reload for Cycle 7 of operation. The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application for amendment dated April 5, 1988.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed change to the TS is required in order to provide the new safety limits and instrument setpoints associated with the core configuration for the next operating cycle. These changes result in part from the use of more highly enriched fuel and to accommodate changes in power peaking and control rod worths.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed revision to Technical Specifications. As a result of these changes, the plant will be able to operate for about 17 months before the next refueling outage instead of the current 14 months. Operation with the core configuration will result in fewer fuel shipments and will remain within the operating parameters approved by the

Commission prior to issuance of a full power license and within the analysis of environmental impacts in the Final Environmental Statement (FES) for operation. The proposed changes do 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 this proposed action would result in no significant radiological environmental impact.

With regard to potential non-radiological impacts, the proposed change to the TS involves systems located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. It does not affect non-radiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant non-radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed amendment.

The Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment and Opportunity for Hearing in connection with this action was published in the Federal Register on April 25, 1988 (53 FR 13456). No request for hearing or petition for leave to intervene was filed following this notice.

Alternative to the Proposed Action:

Since the Commission concluded that there are no significant environmental effects that would result from the proposed action, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impacts need not be evaluated.

The principal alternative would be to deny the requested amendment. This would not reduce environmental impacts of plant operation and would result in not allowing operation of the plant.

Alternative Use of Resources:

This action does not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement for the Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit 1, dated December 1972.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

The NRC staff reviewed the licensee's request and did not consult other agencies or persons.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

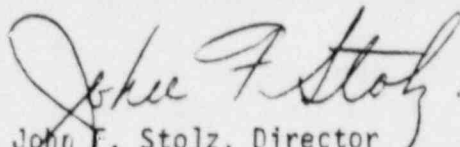
The Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed license amendment.

Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, we conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated April 5, 1988, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. and at the Local Public Document Room, Government Publication Section, State Library of Pennsylvania, Walnut Street and Commonwealth Avenue, Box 1601, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17105.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 11th day of July 1988.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



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