

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
MISSISSIPPI POWER & LIGHT COMPANY
SYSTEM ENERGY RESOURCES INC.
SOUTH MISSISSIPPI ELECTRIC POWER ASSOCIATION
DOCKET NO. 50-416
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-29 issued to Mississippi Power & Light Company, System Energy Resources, Inc., and South Mississippi Electric Power Associates, (the licensees), for operation of the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station (GGNS), Unit 1, located in Claiborne County, Mississippi.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of Proposed Action:

The proposed amendment would change the onsite diesel generator test schedule in the Technical Specifications (TS) by changing the criterion for more frequent testing.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application for amendment dated April 8, 1988, as supplemented by letter dated June 21, 1988.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed change to the TS is required in order to reduce the wear of diesel generators due to the frequent testing required by the present TS.

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Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed change to TS and has concluded that the proposed amendment would not adversely affect plant safety. Therefore, the proposed amendment does not significantly increase the probability or consequences of any accident. The Commission also concludes 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 should be no significant increase in 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 requirements with respect to installation or use of a facility component 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.

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 reduced operational flexibility.

Alternative Use of Resources:

This action does not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement related to the operation of Grand Gulf Nuclear Station Units 1 and 2, dated September 1981.

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 8, 1988, as supplemented June 21, 1988, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. and at the Hinds Junior College, McLendon Library, Raymond, Mississippi 39154.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 25th day of July 1988.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

151

Elinor G. Adensam, Director
Project Directorate II-1
Division of Reactor Projects I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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