



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555
SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

SUPPORTING AMENDMENT NO. 17 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

NOs. NPF-37 AND NPF-66

BYRON STATION UNITS 1 AND 2

DOCKET NOs. 50-454 AND 50-455

AND

SUPPORTING AMENDMENT NO. 8 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

NOs. NPF-72 AND NPF-75

BRAIDWOOD STATION UNITS 1 AND 2

DOCKET NOs. 50-456 AND 50-457

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated January 12, 1988, Commonwealth Edison (CECo), the licensee, submitted a Proposed Amendment to Facility Operating Licenses NPF-37, NPF-66, NPF-72, and NPF-75, for the Byron and Braidwood Stations, Units 1 and 2. The proposed amendment requests changes to Technical Specification (TS) Tables 3.3-13 and 4.3-9, to separate the Gaseous Waste Management System (GWPS) Oxygen Analyzer into its two major components. These changes would describe the two separate oxygen analyzers based upon how they are operated. Also, a proposed change to ACTION Statement 38 was requested to cover the individual operation of each analyzer for less than the stated channels operable.

A Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment to License and Proposed No Significant Hazards Consideration Determination and Opportunity for Hearing related to the requested action was published in the Federal Register on March 9, 1988 (53 FR 7588). No requests for hearing and no public comments were received.

2.0 DISCUSSION AND EVALUATION

The GWPS Oxygen Analyzer is actually two separate oxygen analyzers at different system locations, which operate independently of each other. The Oxygen Analyzer (OAT-GW8003) is part of the Automatic Gas Analyzer and analyzes the oxygen concentration from various source tanks lined up to the Waste Gas Compressor suction and any one of the Gas Decay Tanks. The Oxygen Analyzer is capable of continuous operation since flow is provided by an inline pump. The Waste Gas Compressor Oxygen Analyzer (OAIT-GW004) is located on the discharge side of the compressor and is capable of continuously analyzing the oxygen concentration in the compressor discharge as long as one compressor is running. The proper operation of each analyzer is dependent upon adequate gas flow past the detectors. For example, if no compressor is running and a

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sample is analyzed by the Waste Gas Compressor Oxygen Analyzer, the reading would not be representative of the actual oxygen concentration due to stagnation (no flow condition) in the discharge line.

The proposed changes to TS Table 3.3-13 would separate the two oxygen analyzers into individual monitors and more clearly define their application and function. Since the OAIT-GW004 analyzer requires a Waste Gas Compressor to be in operation for it to function properly, the minimum of one (1) channel being operable would need only apply during operation of a compressor. The proposed change to ACTION Statement 38 would cover the individual operation of each analyzer for less than the stated channels required to be operable. The proposed changes to TS Table 4.3-9 would separate the surveillance requirements applicable to the individual monitors.

The staff has reviewed the GWPS description and diagrams as described in the Byron/Braidwood Stations Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR), Section 11.3, and discussed the basis of the proposed TS changes with the licensee. The staff has concluded that the proposed TS changes do not involve any physical change or modification to the GWPS, and that the intended operation of the GWPS, as described in FSAR, will remain unchanged. The proposed changes would more clearly define the application and function of the two oxygen analyzers. Therefore, the staff finds that the changes are acceptable.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

This amendment involves a change in the installation or use of a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. 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 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.

4.0 CONCLUSION

The staff has further 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 the health and safety of the public.

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Dated: April 15, 1988