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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

ILLINOIS POWER COMPANY, ET AL.

DOCKET NO. 50-461

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF

NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to the Illinois Power Company* (IP), Soyland Power Cooperative, Inc. and Western Illinois Power Cooperative, Inc., (the licensees) for Clinton Power Station, Unit 1, located in DeWitt County, Illinois.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of Proposed Action: In general, the proposed license amendment would revise Technical Specification (TS) Section 4.8.2.1.d.2.b in order to accurately reflect the 4-hour Division II battery emergency loading profile. The licensees proposed to increase the emergency loading profile of the Division II battery by 10 amperes. This increases the first, second, and third periods of the battery emergency loading profile to 462 amperes, 296 amperes, and 108 amperes, respectively.

This revision to the Clinton Power Station license would be made in response to the licensees' application for amendment dated October 30, 1987.

*Illinois Power Company is authorized to act as agent for Soyland Power Cooperative, Inc. and Western Illinois Power Cooperative, Inc. and has exclusive responsibility and control over the physical construction, operation and maintenance of the facility.

The Need for the Proposed Action: Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.90, IP, et al. have proposed an amendment to Facility Operating License No. NPF-62 in order to accurately reflect the 4-hour Division II battery emergency loading profile.

The purpose of this profile is to define the level of loading in amperes that the battery would have to supply for a specific time period during an emergency condition with the battery charger inoperable. The Technical Specification requires a demonstration once every 18 months during shutdown that the battery can supply a dummy load of that profile or that it can supply the actual emergency loads.

A review conducted by the licensees determined that a Division II load (Fire Protection distribution panel) was not considered for this profile during a previous plant modification review. The proposed Technical Specification change therefore increases the emergency loading profile of the Division II battery by 10 amperes. This increases the first, second, and third periods of the battery emergency loading profile to 462 amperes, 296 amperes, and 108 amperes, respectively.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action: The licensees stated that the battery capacity has been evaluated using the new loading profile to ensure its capability of supporting required design basis accident loads. The staff has determined that the change in battery load is not significant in comparison to the battery capacity and that the batteries are capable of supplying the new loads now and at the end of their twenty year life per IEE 485.

Based on the relatively small increase in battery loading and the battery's capability of supplying the new loads, the staff concludes that the Division II battery will continue to provide its original 4-hour endurance under the new emergency loading profile.

The Commission has determined that potential radiological releases during normal operations, transients, and for accidents would not be increased. With regard to non-radiological impacts, the proposed amendment involves systems located entirely within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. They do not affect non-radiological plant effluents and have no other environmental impact. Therefore, the staff also concludes that there are no significant non-radiological environment impacts associated with the proposed amendment.

Accordingly, the Commission findings in the "Final Environmental Statement related to the operation of Clinton Power Station, Unit No. 1" dated May 1982 regarding radiological environmental impacts from the plant during normal operation or after accident conditions, are not adversely altered by this action. IP is committed to operate Clinton, Unit 1 in accordance with standards and regulations to maintain occupational exposure levels "as low as reasonably achievable".

Alternative to the Proposed Actions: The principal alternative would be to deny the requested amendment. This alternative, in effect, would be the same as a "no action" alternative. Since the Commission has concluded that no adverse environmental effects are associated with this proposed action, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impact need not be evaluated.

Alternative Use of Resources: This action does not involve the use of resources not previously considered in connection with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Final Environmental Statement dated May 1982 related to this facility.

Agencies and Persons Consulted: The NRC staff reviewed the licensees' request of October 30, 1987 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 this Environmental Assessment, the Commission concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant adverse effect on the quality of the human environment.

For further details with respect to this action, see the request for amendment dated October 30, 1987 and the Final Environmental Statement for the Clinton Power Station dated May 1982, which are available for public inspection at the Commission' Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20555 and at the Vespasian Warner Public Library, 120 West Johnson Street, Clinton, Illinois 61727.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 4th day of August 1988.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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