

50-440



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

October 13, 1998

LICENSEE: Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company

FACILITY: Perry Nuclear Power Plant, Unit No. 1

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF SEPTEMBER 10, 1998 MEETING ON FEEDWATER ISOLATION PROVISIONS

On September 10, 1998, NRC staff met with representatives of Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company (CEI) in Rockville, Maryland. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss proposed changes to the design and licensing basis to the containment isolation provisions for the feedwater system. A list of the meeting participants is included as Enclosure 1. While there were no meeting handouts, the licensee provided an advance copy of their license amendment request dated September 9, 1998 (PY-CEI/NRR-2322L). This document has been entered into the public document room under accession number 9809140325.

The license amendment request was not available to the staff prior to the meeting. As indicated above, the licensee provided a copy of their submittal during the meeting. The meeting was requested by the licensee in order to meet the technical reviewers, provide an explanation of the submittal, and to answer any staff questions. The licensee stressed the importance of this submittal to support their seventh refueling outage (currently scheduled for April 1999) and requested staff approval prior to January 29, 1999.

The license amendment request relates to hydrostatic (water) testing of containment isolation check valves in the feedwater system. Isolation provisions for the feedwater penetrations take credit for three isolation valves. Two piston lift check valves are located immediately inside and outside of the containment penetration. A third, motor-operated gate valve is located further upstream, outside of containment. The current licensing basis relies on a water seal provided by the feedwater leakage control system (FWLCS). The FWLCS injects water between the two check valves and also between the outside check valve and gate valve. Due to the need for operator action to initiate this system and the time to fill the piping volume between the valves, the water seal will not be provided until approximately one hour following the postulated accident. In addition, for long-term isolation provisions for a postulated feedwater line break inside containment, reliance is placed upon the motor-operated gate valve to close.

The proposed technical specification change stipulates that water leakage from the feedwater motor-operated containment isolation valves will be added into the Primary Coolant Sources Outside of Containment Program, and therefore the feedwater check valves will not need to be included in the hydrostatic test program addressed by Surveillance Requirement 3.6.1.3.11. The licensee proposes to add dual power supplies to the motor-operated containment isolation valve and redirect FWLCS water to the gate valve bonnet and seat areas. The licensee stated that these changes would represent improvements to the currently approved containment isolation provisions.

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The request was submitted pursuant to both 10 CFR 50.90 and 50.59. A significant portion of the meeting was devoted to understanding the current licensing basis for the feedwater penetrations and how the proposed changes represent an overall improvement to the existing isolation provisions. The staff noted that the licensing basis appeared unique in that 1) while credit was being taken for a water seal, it would take approximately one hour to provide this seal, and 2) long-term isolation provisions rely upon the closure of the motor-operated gate valves.

The staff acknowledged industry problems with leak testing of feedwater check valves for boiling water reactors and indicated that the review would support the licensee's outage plans.



Douglas V. Pickett, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate III-2
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-440

Enclosure: List of Meeting Participants

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Original signed by:

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Division of Reactor Projects III/IV
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FEEDWATER ISOLATION PROVISIONS

SEPTEMBER 10, 1998

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