



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 118 TO DPR-65

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY, ET AL.

MILLSTONE NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNIT NO. 2

DOCKET NO. 50-336

INTRODUCTION

By application for license amendment dated June 25, 1987, Northeast Nuclear Energy Company, et al. (the licensee), requested changes to the Technical Specifications (TS) for Millstone Unit 2 regarding hydraulic seismic restraints (snubbers), TS 3/4.7.8.1, as follows: (1) the TS Table that explicitly lists the snubbers that are required to be operable and undergo surveillance would be eliminated and (2) the TS numbering system for TS 3/4.7.8.1 would be changed. The third proposed change to the snubber TS, which would allow the licensee to perform an engineering evaluation to determine a snubber supported system/component to be operable with an inoperable snubber, will be addressed in future correspondence.

DISCUSSION AND EVALUATION

On May 3, 1984, the NRC issued Generic Letter (GL) 84-13, "Technical Specifications for Snubbers." The contents of GL 84-13 state, in part:

During the last several years, a large number of license amendments have been required to add, delete or modify the snubber listing within the technical specifications. We have reassessed the inclusion of snubber listings within the technical specifications and conclude that such listings are not necessary provided the snubber technical specification is modified to specify which snubbers are required to be operable. You should also note that the recordkeeping requirements of paragraph 4.9.7.f of the snubber technical specification are not altered by this revision. Paragraph 4.9.7.f requires that the plant records contain a record of the service life, installation date, etc. of each snubber. Since any changes in snubber quantities, types, or locations would be a change to the facility, such changes would be subject to the provisions of 10 CFR Part 50.59 and, of course, these changes would have to be reflected in the records required by paragraph 4.7.9.f.

The licensee's June 25, 1987 application for license amendment is responsive to GL 84-13 in that it proposes the deletion of the TS snubber listing. As recommended by GL 84-13, a revised Limiting Condition for Operation, (LCO) and associated Action Statement, replaces the snubber list. The proposed LCO and Action Statement define which snubbers must be operable (and undergo surveillance) and also provides appropriate remedial actions.

The proposed change to TS 3/4.7.8.1 does not decrease the seismic capability of snubber-supported systems in that no change in the number or placement of snubbers will occur as a direct result of the proposed change. The proposed change to TS 3/4.7.8.1 would allow the licensee to add or delete snubbers, previously permitted under TS 3/4.7.8.1 without prior NRC approval, without a subsequent license amendment to keep the "snubber list" current. The licensee would still be required to prepare an evaluation, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.59(b)(1), prior to removal of a snubber associated with TS 3/4.7.8.1. Based upon the above, proposed TS 3/4.7.8 (previously TS 3/4.7.8.1 and renumbered as TS 3/4.7.8 for convenience) is acceptable.

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 or a change in surveillance requirements. 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 the 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.

CONCLUSION

We have 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 to the health safety of the public.

Dated: September 1, 1987

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