



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

RELATED TO AMENDMENT NOS. 127 AND 99 TO

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NOS. DPR-51 AND NPF-6

ARKANSAS POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY

ARKANSAS NUCLEAR ONE, UNIT NOS. 1 AND 2

DOCKET NOS. 50-313 AND 50-368

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letters dated December 16, 1988, Arkansas Power and Light Company (AP&L or the licensee) requested amendments to the Technical Specifications appended to Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-51 and NPF-6 for Arkansas Nuclear One, Units 1 and 2 (ANO-1&2). The proposed amendments would change the Technical Specifications for each unit to clarify and define which fire barriers are encompassed by surveillance requirements and action statements.

2.0 EVALUATION

The modifications to the Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 1 Technical Specifications (TS) include the following: (1) the title of Sections 3.21 and 4.24 are changed from penetration fire barriers to fire barriers and the terms functional and intact are changed to OPERABLE; (2) Sections 3.21 and 3.21.1 are changed to indicate that these TS cover barriers for both separation of safety-related fire areas and separation of redundant safe shutdown systems required in the event of a fire; (3) Section 3.21.3 is changed to address the applicability of TS 3.0.3 and 3.0.4 for clarification; (4) Section 4.24.1 is modified for clarification; (5) Section 4.24.1.b is added to require the performance of a visual inspection of fire doors and fire dampers once per 18 months; (6) Section 4.24.1.c is added to require that ten percent of each type of sealed penetration be inspected at least once per 18 months and that all penetration seals be inspected once per 15 years. For each of the above changes, appropriate changes to the TS Bases have been made.

The modifications to the Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 2 TS include the following: (1) the title of Section 3/4.7.11 is changed from penetration fire barriers to fire barriers and the terms functional and intact are changed to OPERABLE; (2) Section 3.7.11 is changed to indicate that the TS covers barriers for both separation of safety-related fire areas and separation of redundant safe shutdown systems required in the event of a fire; (3) Section 3.7.11.a is changed by adding the option to verify the operability of fire detectors with the control room alarm on at least one side of the affected barrier with an hourly fire watch; (4) Section 4.7.11 is changed for clarification; (5) Section 4.7.11.c is added to require the performance of a visual inspection of fire doors and fire dampers once per 18 months; (6) Section 4.7.11.d is added to require that ten percent of each type of sealed penetration be inspected at least once each 18 months and that all penetration seals be inspected once per 15 years. For each of the above changes, appropriate changes to the TS Bases for Section 3/4.7.11 have been made.

3.0 EVALUATION

The staff was originally concerned that all of the fire barriers that were relied upon to satisfy NRC fire protection criteria were not being surveillance tested under the plant TS for each Arkansas Unit. Specifically, the licensee was conducting surveillances on barriers required to satisfy Appendix R to 10 CFR Part 50 but not barriers necessary to conform with Appendix A to Branch Technical Position APCSB 9.5-1. The licensee's TS amendment for each unit corrects this omission and is, therefore, considered acceptable.

The changes related to reliance upon an hourly fire watch patrol and performance of surveillance on fire damper and penetration fire seals are in accordance with the Standard Technical Specifications (STS) and are, considered acceptable for both ANO-1&2.

The remaining changes are editorial in nature and are related to the above revisions. Based on its evaluation the staff for concludes that the licensee's proposed TS amendments for Arkansas Nuclear One, Units 1 and 2 conform with the criteria of Appendix A to BTP APCSB 9.5-1 and the STS and are approved.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The 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 and 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 individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposures. The Commission has previously issued a proposed finding that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration and there has been no public comment on such finding. Accordingly, the amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR Section 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 the amendment.

5.0 CONCLUSION

The staff has 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 the amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Date: September 27, 1989

Principal Contributors:

D. Kubicki
C. Poslusny
C. Harbuck