



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 136 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-80
AND AMENDMENT NO. 136 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-82
PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
DIABLO CANYON NUCLEAR POWER PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2
DOCKET NOS. 50-275 AND 50-323

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated December 29, 1998, as supplemented by letters dated July 30, and October 12, 1999, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) submitted a license amendment request (LAR) to revise TS 6.9.1.8, "Core Operating Limits Report," of the current Technical Specifications (TSs) and TS 5.6 of the improved TSs, to allow the use of NRC approved addenda to WCAP-10054-P-A, "Westinghouse Small Break ECCS Evaluation Model Using NOTRUMP Code," August 1985, to determine core operating limits. The improved TSs were issued in Amendment Nos. 135 for Diablo Canyon Power Plant, Units 1 and 2 dated May 28, 1999, but have not yet been implemented.

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) requested approval to reference the Westinghouse (W) addendum to the small break (SB) emergency core cooling system (ECCS) evaluation model (EM) described in WCAP-10054, August 1985, in licensing documentation for Diablo Canyon Units 1 and 2, and apply it to the Diablo Canyon licensing analysis.

The July 30 and October 12, 1999, supplemental letters provided additional clarifying information, did not expand the scope of the application as originally noticed, and did not change the staff's original proposed no significant hazards consideration determination published in the Federal Register on April 21, 1999 (64 FR 19562).

2.0 EVALUATION

In its review, the NRC considered the acceptability of the W SB ECCS EM using the NOTRUMP Code, including the COSI safety injection/steam condensation model described in WCAP-10054, Addendum 2, Revision 1, July 1997, for reference in Diablo Canyon licensing documentation and use in Diablo Canyon SB ECCS analyses. The NRC approved the use of WCAP-10054-P-A, Addendum 2, Revision 1, finding it acceptable for referencing in NOTRUMP SBLOCA evaluations in operating reactors in design licensing applications, including reference in plant technical specifications and core operating limits reports (COLRs), as stated in a safety evaluation dated August 12, 1996.

Diablo Canyon Units 1 and 2 are Westinghouse 4-loop design with no significant differences from the designs for which the methodology was approved. Therefore, the staff finds that the W SB ECCS EM described in WCAP-10054, Addendum 2, Revision 1, July 1997, is acceptable for use in Diablo Canyon licensing applications, including reference in the Diablo Canyon Technical Specification 6.9.1.8.b.5 and COLR. Inclusion of this methodology in the TS will provide assurance that values for cycle-specific parameters are determined such that all applicable ECCS limits of the safety analysis are met.

3.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the California State official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendments. The State official had no comments.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

These amendments relate to changes in recordkeeping, reporting, or administrative procedures or requirements. Accordingly, the amendments meet the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(10). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b) no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendments.

5.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission 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, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendments will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributor: S. Bloom

Date: November 15, 1999