



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

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT APPRAISAL BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

SUPPORTING AMENDMENT NO. 17 TO LICENSE NO. DPR-50

METROPOLITAN EDISON COMPANY

JERSEY CENTRAL POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY

PENNSYLVANIA ELECTRIC COMPANY

THREE MILE ISLAND NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 1

I. Description of Proposed Action

By letters dated July 9 and 15, 1975, August 8, 1975, October 23, 1975, and February 11, 1976 the Metropolitan Edison Company (Met Ed) provided information and supportive analysis relative to a proposed change in the Appendix A Technical Specifications of Facility License No. DPR-28. The proposed change concerns revisions to the limiting conditions for operation to the Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit No. 1 (TMI-1) as a result of the implementation of the Acceptance Criteria for the Emergency Core Cooling System (ECCS) and reload for cycle 2 operation. The implementation of the ECCS Acceptance Criteria will permit operation of TMI-1 at a power level previously evaluated in the Final Environmental Statement (FES) issued in December 1972. The FES concluded that based upon an evaluation of the proposed operating conditions, an operating license should be issued for TMI-1.

II. Environmental Impacts of Proposed Action

The NRC has evaluated the potential environmental impacts associated with this proposed license amendment as required by the NEPA and Section 51.7 of Part 51 CFR.

The potential NEPA concerns associated with the implementation of the ECCS Criteria for TMI-1 and cycle 2 operation can be defined as:

1. Changes in benefits accruing from plant operation due to revisions to reactor power limits.
2. Variation in environmental impacts resulting from changes in non-radiological effluent releases.
3. Variation in environmental impacts resulting from changes in radiological effluent releases.

This NRC evaluation has concluded that operating power will be as previously evaluated and presented in the FES of December 1972. Therefore, no resultant changes in these (3) criteria are expected. Since this change will not result in modified power levels, no changes in the Cost/Benefit balance and environmental impacts (other than expressed in the FES) are predicted. The FES evaluation of TMI-1 cooling water flow, thermal effluents, chemical effluents, radiological source term and effluents during operation and postulated accident conditions need not be revised as a result of the implementation of the ECCS Acceptance Criteria or cycle 2 operation.

III. Conclusions and Basis for Negative Declaration

On the basis of the NRC evaluation and information supplied by Met Ed, it is concluded that the implementation of the ECCS Acceptance Criteria for TMI-1 or cycle 2 operation will produce no discernible environmental impacts other than those previously addressed in the FES of December 1972. The issuance of this change to the Appendix A Technical Specifications will permit operation at a power level previously evaluated in the FES and will not affect the Cost/Benefit balance, nor the evaluation of the radiological and non-radiological effluents as presented in the FES. This amendment will not require changes to the Environmental Technical Specifications (Appendix B).

Having reached these conclusions, the Commission has determined that an environmental impact statement need not be prepared for the proposed license amendment and that a Negative Declaration shall be issued to this effect.

Date: MAY 18 1976