

March 14, 1986

Docket No. 50-412

Mr. J. J. Carey, Vice President
Duquesne Light Company
Nuclear Group
Post Office Box 4
Shippingport, PA 15077

Dear Mr. Carey:

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Subject: Order Extending Construction Completion Date - Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit 2

In response to your request of November 8, 1984, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued an Order extending the construction completion date for the Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit 2. The referenced Order extends the latest construction completion date specified in CPPR-105 to December 31, 1986.

Copies of the Order and the staff's evaluation are enclosed for your information. The Order has been transmitted to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:
Thomas M. Novak

Thomas M. Novak, Acting Director
Division of PWR Licensing-A
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosures:

1. Order
2. Evaluation

cc: See next page

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Mr. J. J. Carey
Duquesne Light Company

Beaver Valley 2 Power Station

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

DUQUESNE LIGHT COMPANY ET AL

BEAVER VALLEY POWER STATION, UNIT 2

DOCKET NO. 50-412

ORDER EXTENDING CONSTRUCTION COMPLETION DATE

Duquesne Light Company, Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, Ohio Edison Company, and Toledo Edison Company (permittees) are the holders of Construction Permit No. CPPR-105 issued by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission on May 3, 1974 for the Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit 2. This facility is presently under construction at the applicant's site in Shippingport, Pennsylvania.

Upon the permittees' request, the Commission has, on January 30, 1980, extended the Construction Permit to December 31, 1984.

By letter dated November 8, 1984, Duquesne Light Company, on behalf of itself and the other permittees, filed a request for extension of the latest construction completion date for the facility. This request is to extend the latest completion date from December 31, 1984 to December 31, 1986.

Duquesne Light Company stated that this extension is requested because construction has been delayed due to the following:

1. At the time the permittees applied for the earlier extension of the Construction Permit in 1979, the projected Central Area Power Coordinating Group (CAPCO) summer peak load forecast for 1984 was 13563MW. Since that time, the demand for power in the CAPCO area has fallen below anticipated levels. The projected CAPCO summer peak load forecast for 1986 (the present anticipated year of commercial availability) is 11550MW. The general decline of CAPCO load growth justifies deferral of fuel load until June 30, 1986.

2. As a result of the TMI-2 accident in March 1979, a large number of new regulatory requirements applicable to the design and construction of BVPS-2 have been promulgated. These requirements include the emergency response facilities, combustible gas control, human factors review, and containment design. The implementation of these changes has significantly delayed the critical path construction schedules. Although it is difficult to assess their individual impact, the permittees estimate that the cumulative effect of these changes resulted in more than one (1) year of delay in completion of BVPS-2 from the permittees' schedule at the time the Construction Permit completion date was extended.

3. Since the time of the original extension, the BVPS-2 construction schedule has been affected by financial considerations. In April of 1980, the members of CAPCO (which includes the Permittees) took several steps to improve their financial position. Four nuclear plants in the design stages were abandoned, and the construction schedules of three nuclear plants, including BVPS-2, were extended. The completion date for BVPS-2 was moved from May 1984 to May 1986.

4. The permittees need additional time to fully test and evaluate completed portions of the project as they are turned over by the contractors. The permittees believe additional time spent on evaluation and testing is necessary to ensure that the plant will perform as specified. The permittees' original schedule underestimated the amount of time required to complete planned activities.

5. Consideration should also be given to construction schedule impacts that have been experienced as a result of activities necessary to meet updated regulatory requirements. These activities, such as additional technical analysis, engineering, and reconfirmation of completed work were

not included in the project scope at the time the present schedule was adopted.

The staff has performed an evaluation of the request for extension. Based on this review, the staff has determined that the above factors have resulted in significant delays in construction completion and that the request is for a reasonable period of time when considering the nature of the delays. In addition, the extension of the latest completion date in the construction permit does not involve any significant hazards consideration since the extension will not allow any work to be performed that is not already allowed by the existing construction permit.

Prior public notice of this extension was not required since the Commission has determined that this action involves no significant hazards consideration; good cause has been shown for the delays; and the requested extension is for a reasonable period of time.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.32, the Commission has determined that this action will not result in any significant environmental impact (51 FR 8922 , March 14, 1986).

The NRC staff's evaluation of the request for extension of the construction permit is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20555, and at the B. F. Jones Memorial Library, 663 Franklin Avenue, Aliquippa, Pennsylvania 15001.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT the latest completion date for CPPR-105 be extended from December 1984 to December 31, 1986.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Thomas M. Novak, Acting Director
Division of PWR Licensing-A
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Date of Issuance: March 14, 1986



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

OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
EVALUATION OF A REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF
CONSTRUCTION PERMIT NO. CPPR-105
FOR THE BEAVER VALLEY POWER STATION, UNIT 2
DOCKET NO. STN 50-412

Introduction

Construction Permit No. CPPR-105 for Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit 2 was issued on May 3, 1974 to the Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, Duquesne Light Company, Ohio Edison Company, Pennsylvania Power Company and Toledo Edison Company. The latest expiration date of this permit is December 31, 1984. By letter dated November 8, 1984, Duquesne Light Company filed a request for extension of the latest construction completion date for Beaver Valley Unit 2 to December 31, 1986.

Discussion

In its application for extension of the construction completion date, Duquesne Light Company indicated that the following factors are responsible for the delay in completion of the construction activities:

1. At the time the permittees applied for the earlier extension of the Construction Permit in 1979, the projected Central Area Power Coordinating Group (CAPCO) summer peak load forecast for 1984 was 13563MW. Since that time, the demand for power in the CAPCO area has fallen below anticipated levels. The projected CAPCO summer peak load forecast for 1986 (the present anticipated year of commercial availability) is 11550MW. The general decline of CAPCO load growth justifies deferral of fuel load until June 30, 1986.
2. As a result of the TMI-2 accident in March 1979, a large number of new regulatory requirements applicable to the design and construction of BVPS-2 have been promulgated. These requirements include the emergency response facilities, combustible gas control, human factors review, and containment design. The implementation of these changes has significantly delayed the critical path construction schedules. Although it is difficult to assess their individual impact, the permittees estimate that the cumulative effect of these changes resulted in more than one (1) year of delay in completion of BVPS-2 from the permittees' schedule at the time the Construction Permit completion date was extended.
3. Since the time of the original extension, the BVPS-2 construction schedule has been affected by financial considerations. In April of 1980, the members of the CAPCO (which includes the Permittees) took several steps to

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improve their financial position. Four nuclear plants in the design stages were abandoned, and the construction schedules of three nuclear plants, including BVPS-2, were extended. The completion date for BVPS-2 was moved from May 1984 to May 1986.

4. The permittees need additional time to fully test and evaluate completed portions of the project as they are turned over by the contractors. The permittees believe additional time spent on evaluation and testing is necessary to ensure that the plant will perform as specified. The permittees' original schedule underestimated the amount of time required to complete planned activities.

5. Consideration should also be given to construction schedule impacts that have been experienced as a result of activities necessary to meet updated regulatory requirements. These activities, such as additional technical analysis, engineering, and reconfirmation of completed work were not included in the project scope at the time the present schedule was adopted.

Collectively, these factors have led the permittees to conclude that construction of Beaver Valley Unit 2 would not be completed by December 1, 1984 and Duquesne Light Company has requested a 24-month extension of the latest completion date to December 31, 1986.

The NRC staff has reviewed the information provided in the Duquesne Light Company's submittal. Based on that review, the staff concurs with the permittees as to the reasonableness of time estimated for the delay. Therefore, the staff concludes that the factors discussed above constitute good cause for granting the requested extension.

As a result of the staff's review of the Final Safety Analysis Report to date, and considering the nature of the delays, the staff has identified no areas of significant safety consideration in connection with the extension for the construction completion date for the Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit 2. The only change proposed by the permittees to the existing construction permit is an extension of the latest construction completion date. This extension will not allow any work to be performed involving new safety concern of a type that was not considered by previous Commission safety reviews of the facility and that is not already allowed by the existing construction permit. Therefore, the staff finds that (1) the extension of the latest completion date in the construction permit does not involve a significant hazards consideration, (2) prior public notice of this action is not required, (3) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by the requested extension of the construction completion date, and (4) good cause exists for issuance of an order extending the construction completion date.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.32, the staff has determined that this Order will not result in any significant environmental impact (51 FR 8922, March 14, 1986).

Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, the staff concludes that issuance of an Order extending the latest construction completion date for the Beaver

Valley Power Station, Unit 2, as set forth in CPPR-105, to December 31, 1986, is reasonable and should be authorized.

Dated: March 14, 1986