

petition for leave to intervene shall be filed in accordance with the Commission's "Rules of Practice for Domestic Licensing Proceedings" in 10 CFR Part 2. Interested persons should consult a current copy of 10 CFR 2.714 which is available at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room located at the Morris Area Public Library District, 604 Liberty Street, Morris, Illinois 60450. If a request for a hearing or petition for leave to intervene is filed by the above date, the Commission or an Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, designated by the Commission or by the Chairman of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel, will rule on the request and/or petition; and the Secretary or the designated Atomic Safety and Licensing Board will issue a notice of hearing or an appropriate order.

As required by 10 CFR 2.714, a petition for leave to intervene shall set forth with particularity the interest of the petitioner in the proceeding, and how that interest may be affected by the results of the proceeding. The petition should specifically explain the reasons why intervention should be permitted with particular reference to the following factors: (1) The nature of the petitioner's right under the Act to be made party to the proceeding; (2) the nature and extent of the petitioner's property, financial, or other interest in the proceeding; and (3) the possible effect of any order which may be entered in the proceeding on the petitioner's interest. The petition should also identify the specific aspect(s) of the subject matter of the proceeding as to which petitioner wishes to intervene. Any person who has filed a petition for leave to intervene or who has been admitted as a party may amend the petition without requesting leave of the Board up to 15 days prior to the first prehearing conference scheduled in the proceeding, but such an amended petition must satisfy the specificity requirements described above.

Not later than 15 days prior to the first prehearing conference scheduled in the proceeding, a petitioner shall file a supplement to the petition to intervene which must include a list of the contentions which are sought to be litigated in the matter. Each contention must consist of a specific statement of the issue of law or fact to be raised or controverted. In addition, the petitioner shall provide a brief explanation of the bases of the contention and a concise statement of the alleged facts or expert opinion which support the contention and on which the petitioner intends to

rely in proving the contention at the hearing. The petitioner must also provide references to those specific sources and documents of which the petitioner is aware and on which the petitioner intends to rely to establish those facts or expert opinion. Petitioner must provide sufficient information to show that a genuine dispute exists with the applicant on a material issue of law or fact. Contentions shall be limited to matters within the scope of the amendment under consideration. The contention must be one which, if proven, would entitle the petitioner to relief. A petitioner who fails to file such a supplement which satisfies these requirements with respect to at least one contention will not be permitted to participate as a party.

Those permitted to intervene become parties to the proceeding, subject to any limitations in the order granting leave to intervene, and have the opportunity to participate fully in the conduct of the hearing, including the opportunity to present evidence and cross-examine witnesses.

If a hearing is requested, the Commission will make a final determination on the issue of no significant hazards consideration. The final determination will serve to decide when the hearing is held.

If the final determination is that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration, the Commission may issue the amendment and make it immediately effective, notwithstanding the request for a hearing. Any hearing held would take place after issuance of the amendment.

If the final determination is that the amendment request involves a significant hazards consideration, any hearing held would take place before the issuance of any amendment.

A request for a hearing or a petition for leave to intervene must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, Attention: Docketing and Services Branch, or may be delivered to the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, by the above date. Where petitions are filed during the last 10 days of the notice period, it is requested that the petitioner promptly so inform the Commission by a toll-free telephone call to Western Union at 1-(800) 248-5100 (in Missouri 1-(800) 342-6700). The Western Union operator should be given Datagram Identification Number N1023 and the following message addressed to Robert A. Capra: petitioner's name and telephone number, date petition was mailed, plant name, and publication

date and page number of this Federal Register notice. A copy of the petition should also be sent to the Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, and to Michael I. Miller, Esquire; Sidley and Austin, One First National Plaza, Chicago, Illinois 60603, attorney for the licensee.

Nontimely filings of petitions for leave to intervene, amended petitions, supplemental petitions and/or requests for hearing will not be entertained absent a determination by the Commission, the presiding officer or the presiding Atomic Safety and Licensing Board that the petition and/or request should be granted based upon a balancing of the factors specified in 10 CFR 2.714(a)(1) (i)-(v) and 2.714(d).

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated February 17, 1997, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room located at the Morris Area Public Library District, 604 Liberty Street, Morris, Illinois 60450.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 21st day of February 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
Robert M. Pulsifer,
*Project Manager, Project Directorate III-2,
Division of Reactor Projects—III/IV, Office of
Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*
[FR Doc. 97-4855 Filed 2-26-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

[Docket No. 50-336]

**Northeast Nuclear Energy Company;
Notice of Withdrawal of Application for
Amendment to Facility Operating
License**

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has granted the request of Northeast Nuclear Energy Company (the licensee) to withdraw its October 24, 1995, application for proposed amendment to Facility Operating License No. DPR-65 for the Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 2, located in New London, Connecticut.

The proposed amendment would have revised the Technical Specifications to defer the next required surveillance to inspect steam generator tubes, from October 20, 1996, to the next refueling outage or no later than October 20, 1997, whichever is earlier.

The Commission had previously issued a Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment published in

the Federal Register on November 27, 1995 (60 FR 58402). However, by letter dated February 4, 1997, the licensee withdrew the proposed change.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated October 24, 1995, as supplemented March 7, 1996, and the licensee's letter dated February 4, 1997, which withdrew the application for license amendment. The above documents are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room located at the Learning Resources Center, Three Rivers Community-Technical College, 574 New London Turnpike, Norwich, Connecticut, and the Waterford Library, ATTN: Vince Juliano, 49 Rope Ferry Road, Waterford, Connecticut.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 19th day of February 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
Daniel G. McDonald,
*Senior Project Manager Special Projects
Office—Licensing Office of Nuclear Reactor
Regulation.*

[FR Doc. 97-4856 Filed 2-26-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

Northeast Utilities; Notice of Document Availability and Public Meeting

On January 31, 1997, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) received from Northeast Nuclear Energy Company (NNECO), the licensee for the Millstone Nuclear Power Station, its comprehensive plan for resolving employee safety concerns. The plan is in response to an NRC Order. On October 24, 1996, the Director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation sent an Order to NNECO requiring: (1) A comprehensive plan for resolving the Millstone station employees' safety concerns; and (2) an independent third-party oversight of NNECO's implementation of this plan. Copies of NNECO's Comprehensive Plan pertaining to the employee safety concerns program are available at the Waterford Public Library, ATTN: Mr. Vincent Juliano, 49 Rope Ferry Road, Waterford, Connecticut, and the Learning Resources Center, Three Rivers Community-Technical College, 574 New London Turnpike, Norwich, Connecticut.

The NRC will hold a public meeting regarding the comprehensive plan for resolving the Millstone station employees' safety concerns. The meeting will be held in the near future at the Waterford Town Hall in

Waterford, Connecticut. The meeting will be open to public attendance and will be transcribed. The NRC has elected to hold such a public meeting because of the public's interest.

The structure of the public meeting shall be as follows:

NRC opening remarks
Members of the public comments and questions
NRC closing remarks
Meeting concludes

The purpose of this public meeting is to obtain comments from members of the public for NRC staff use in evaluating NNECO's comprehensive plan addressing employee safety concerns. The staff will not offer any preliminary views on its evaluation of the comprehensive plan. The public meeting will be chaired by a senior NRC official who will limit presentations to the above subject.

A meeting notice will be issued stating the date and time of the meeting.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 19th day of February 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
Helen N. Pastis,
*Senior Project Manager, Special Projects
Office—Licensing, Office of Nuclear Reactor
Regulation.*

[FR Doc. 97-4854 Filed 2-26-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

[Docket No. 50-362]

Southern California Edison Company; Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating License, Proposed No Significant Hazards Consideration Determination, and Opportunity for a Hearing

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. NPF-15 issued to Southern California Edison Company (the licensee) for operation of the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS), Unit No. 3 located in San Diego County, California.

The proposed amendment would defer implementation of Surveillance Requirement 3.3.5.6 of Technical Specification 3.3.5, "Engineered Safety Features Actuation System (ESFAS) Instrumentation" for the 30 subgroup relays identified in Attachment C of the licensee's February 18, 1997, letter to no later than the upcoming SONGS Unit 3 Cycle 9 refueling outage (currently scheduled to begin on April 12, 1997).

The exigent circumstances for this TS amendment request exist because it would avoid an undesirable transient associated with an unnecessary plant

shutdown and this would minimize potential safety consequences and operational risks associated with such action. In the event of a planned or unplanned shutdown of Unit 3, prior to the Cycle 9 refueling outage, testing in accordance with Surveillance Requirement 3.3.5.6 will be completed prior to increasing in Modes from that shutdown.

Before issuance of the proposed license amendment, the Commission will have made findings required by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act) and the Commission's regulations.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.91(a)(6) for amendments to be granted under exigent circumstances, the NRC staff must determine that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration. Under the Commission's regulations in 10 CFR 50.92, this means that operation of the facility in accordance with the proposed amendment would not (1) involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated; or (2) create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated; or (3) involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety. As required by 10 CFR 50.91(a), the licensee has provided its analysis of the issue of no significant hazards consideration, which is presented below:

1. The proposed change does not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated.

The proposed change would defer completion of Surveillance Requirement (SR) 3.3.5.6 of Technical Specification (TS) 3.3.5 for 30 Emergency Safety Feature Actuation System (ESFAS) subgroup relays until the Unit 3, Cycle 9 refueling outage.

Operation of the facility would remain unchanged as a result of the proposed change and no assumptions or results of any accident analyses are affected. Based on other surveillance testing, the response time margin available for these subgroup relays, results of response time testing on Unit 2 relays, and the history of no failures since the 1989 to 1993 time period, the capability of these ESFAS subgroup relays to perform their specified safety function has been demonstrated and they are operable.

Therefore, the proposed change will not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated.

2. The proposed change does not create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated.

The proposed change would defer completion of SR 3.3.5.6 of TS 3.3.5 for 30 ESFAS subgroup relays until the Unit 3, Cycle 9 refueling outage.