

A request for a hearing or petition for leave to intervene must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, Attention: Rulemakings and Adjudication Staff, or may be delivered to the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, by the above date. 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 William D. Johnson, Vice President and Senior Counsel, Carolina Power and Light Company, Post Office Box 1551, Raleigh, North Carolina 27602, 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 on a balancing of factors specified in 10 CFR 2.714(a)(1)(i)-(v) and 2.714(d).

If a request for a hearing is received, the Commission's staff may issue the amendment after it completes its technical review and prior to the completion of any required hearing if it publishes a further notice for public comment of its proposed finding of no significant hazards consideration in accordance with 10 CFR 50.91 and 50.92.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated August 28, 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 Hartsville Memorial Library, 147 West College Avenue, Hartsville, South Carolina 29550.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 13th day of April, 1998.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

P.T. Kuo,

Acting Director, Project Directorate II-1, Division of Reactor Projects—I/II, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 98-13503 Filed 5-20-98; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-255]

Palisades Nuclear Plant; Notice of Partial Denial of Amendment to Facility Operating License and Opportunity for Hearing

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has denied a portion of a request by Consumers Energy Company (the licensee) for an amendment to Facility Operating License No. DPR-20 issued to the licensee for operation of the Palisades Nuclear Plant, located in Van Buren County, Michigan. Notice of Consideration of Issuance of this amendment was published in the **Federal Register** on September 20, 1996 (61 FR 49493).

The purpose of the licensee's amendment request was to revise the Technical Specifications to conform the administrative controls section of the Technical Specifications to the guidance of NUREG-1432, "Standard Technical Specifications, Combustion Engineering Plants," and to revise associated surveillance requirements. As part of its request, the licensee proposed to revise Technical Specifications limitations on the dose rate resulting from radioactive material released in gaseous effluents to areas beyond the site boundary. The licensee's submittal did not include sufficient information for the staff to evaluate this proposed change.

The NRC staff has concluded that a portion of the licensee's request cannot be granted. The licensee was notified of the Commission's denial of the proposed change by a letter dated May 7, 1998.

By June 22, 1998, the licensee may demand a hearing with respect to the denial described above. Any person whose interest may be affected by this proceeding may file a written petition for leave to intervene.

A request for hearing or petition for leave to intervene must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, Attention: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff, or may be delivered to the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, by the above date.

A copy of any petitions should also be sent to the Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, and to Judd L. Bacon, Esquire, Consumers Energy Company, 212 West Michigan Avenue, Jackson, Michigan 49201, attorney for the licensee.

For further details with respect to this action, see (1) the application for amendment dated December 11, 1995, as supplemented January 18, September 3, October 2, October 18, October 25, 1996, and March 28, 1997, and (2) the Commission's letter to the licensee dated May 7, 1998.

These 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 Van Wylen Library, Hope College, Holland, Michigan 49423.

Dated at Rockville, MD, this 7th day of May 1998.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Robert G. Schaaf,

Project Manager, Project Directorate III-1, Division of Reactor Projects—III/IV, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 98-13507 Filed 5-20-98; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-255]

Palisades Nuclear Plant; Notice of Partial Denial of Amendment to Facility Operating License and Opportunity for Hearing

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has denied a portion of a request by Consumers Energy Company (the licensee) for an amendment to Facility Operating License No. DPR-20 issued to the licensee for operation of the Palisades Nuclear Plant, located in Van Buren County, Michigan. Notice of Consideration of Issuance of this amendment was published in the **Federal Register** on November 5, 1997 (62 FR 59915).

The purpose of the licensee's amendment request was to revise the Technical Specifications regarding inspection requirements for the reactor coolant pump (RCP) flywheels. As part of its request, the licensee proposed to revise Technical Specification 6.5.6 to apply the provisions of Surveillance Requirement 4.0.2, which permits extension of surveillance intervals by up to 25%, to the flywheel inspection program. The licensee's submittal did not include sufficient information for the staff to evaluate this proposed change.

The NRC staff has concluded that a portion of the licensee's request cannot be granted. The licensee was notified of the Commission's denial of the

proposed change by a letter dated May 15, 1998.

By June 22, 1998, the licensee may demand a hearing with respect to the denial described above. Any person whose interest may be affected by this proceeding may file a written petition for leave to intervene.

A request for hearing or petition for leave to intervene must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, Attention: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff, or may be delivered to the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, by the above date.

A copy of any petitions should also be sent to the Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, and to Judd L. Bacon, Esquire, Consumers Energy Company, 212 West Michigan Avenue, Jackson, Michigan 49201, attorney for the licensee.

For further details with respect to this action, see (1) the application for amendment dated January 18, 1996, as supplemented by letters dated October 1, 1997, and January 29, and April 27, 1998, and (2) the Commission's letter to the licensee dated May 15, 1998.

These 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 Van Wylen Library, Hope College, Holland, Michigan 49423.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 15th day of May 1998.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Robert G. Schaaf,

Project Manager, Project Directorate III-1, Division of Reactor Projects—III/IV, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 98-13557 Filed 5-20-98; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50-387 and 50-388]

Pennsylvania Power and Light 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 amendments to Facility Operating License Nos. NPF-14

and NPF-22 issued to Pennsylvania Power and Light Company for operation of the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station (SSES), Units 1 and 2 located in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania.

The proposed amendment would change the Technical Specifications (TS) for SSES, Units 1 and 2 to implement the provisions of Generic Letter 86-10 related to the relocation of SSES, Units 1 and 2 Fire Protection Program from the TS to a licensee controlled document, the SSES Technical Requirements Manual. This notice supersedes the previous notice published in the **Federal Register** on October 25, 1995 (60 FR 54724), in its entirety.

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.

The Commission has made a proposed determination 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. Involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated.

The proposed change relocates the provisions of the Fire Protection Program that are contained in the Technical Specifications and places them in the Technical Requirements Manual. No requirements are being added or deleted. A requirement is proposed to require written procedures for the implementation of the Technical Requirements Program. Review and approval of those portions of the Fire Protection Program contained in the Technical Requirements Manual and revisions thereto will be the responsibility of the Plant Operations Review Committee just as it was their responsibility to review changes to the fire protection Limiting Condition for Operation and Surveillance Requirements when they were part of the Technical Specifications. Requiring review by the Plant Operations Review Committee reinforces the importance of the Technical Requirements Manual and the requirements controlled by it and assures a multidisciplinary review. Approved Technical Requirements or changes thereto are provided to the

Susquehanna Review Committee for information. No design basis accidents are affected by the change, nor are safety systems adversely affected by the change. Therefore, there is no impact on the probability of [oc]currence or the consequences of any design basis accidents.

Approval, as defined in Technical Specification 6.8.2, of procedures listed in Technical Specification 6.8.1 is proposed to be changed from the "Superintendent of Plant-Susquehanna" to General Manager-Susquehanna SES. This change is administrative in nature and as such is no impact on the probability of [oc]currence or the consequences of any design basis accidents.

The proposed changes to the license conditions for Units 1 and 2 are administrative in nature in that these changes only update the listing of NRC approved safety evaluations and as such are no impact on the probability of [oc]currence or the consequences of any design basis accidents.

2. Create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated.

The proposed changes relocate the provisions of the Fire Protection Program that are contained in the Technical Specifications and places them in the Technical Requirements Manual. The proposed change requires written procedures to cover the implementation of the Technical Requirements Program. No requirements are being added or deleted by the Technical Requirements Manual. There are no new failure modes associated with the proposed changes. Therefore, since the plant will continue to operate as designed, the proposed changes will not modify the plant response to an accident.

Approval, as defined in Technical Specification 6.8.2, of procedures listed in Technical Specification 6.8.1 has been changed[d] from the "Superintendent of Plant Susquehanna" to General Manager-Susquehanna SES. This change is administrative in nature and as such creates no new failure modes and will not modify the plant response to an accident.

The proposed changes to the license conditions for Units 1 and 2 are administrative in nature in that these changes only update the listing of NRC approved safety evaluations and as such create no new failure modes and will not modify the plant response to an accident.

3. Involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety.

No change is being proposed for the Fire Protection Program requirements themselves. The relevant Technical Specifications are being relocated, and the requirements contained therein are being incorporated into the Technical Requirements Manual. Plant procedures will continue to provide the specific instructions necessary for the implementation of the requirements, just as when the requirements resided in the Technical Specifications. A written procedure will be in place for the implementation of the Technical Requirements Program. Fire Protection Program changes will be subject to the provisions of 10C FR 50.59 and the current