

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Phillip F. McKee,

Director, Project Directorate I-3, Division of Reactor Projects—I/II, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

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[Docket Nos. 50-275 and 50-323]:

**Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant,
Unit Nos. 1 and 2; Environmental
Assessment and Finding of No
Significant Impact**

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of amendments to Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-80 and DPR-82, issued to Pacific Gas and Electric Company (the licensee), for operation of Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant, Unit Nos. 1 and 2, located in San Luis Obispo County, California.

Environmental Assessment

Identification of the Proposed Action

The proposed action would allow the storage of fuel in new and spent fuel racks with enrichments up to and including 5.0 weight percent U-235, would clarify that substitution of fuel rods with filler rods is acceptable for fuel designs that have been analyzed with applicable NRC-approved codes and methods, and would allow the use of ZIRLO fuel cladding in the future in addition to Zircaloy-4. The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application for amendment dated February 6, 1995, as supplemented by letters dated March 23, and May 22, 1995.

The Need for the Proposed Action

The proposed action is needed so that the licensee can use higher fuel enrichment to provide the flexibility of extending the fuel irradiation and to permit future operation with longer fuel cycles.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed revisions to the technical specifications. The proposed revisions would permit storage of fuel enriched to a nominal 5.0 weight percent Uranium 235. The safety considerations associated with storing new and spent fuel of a higher enrichment have been evaluated by the NRC staff. The staff has concluded that such changes would not adversely affect plant safety. The proposed changes have no adverse effect on the probability of

any accident. No changes are being made in the types or amounts of any radiological effluents that may be released offsite. There is no significant increase in the allowable individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure.

The environmental impacts of transportation resulting from the use of higher enrichment fuel and extended irradiation (an enveloping case for the Diablo Canyon Power Plant since burnup remains unchanged) were published and discussed in the staff assessment entitled, "NRC Assessment of the Environmental Effects of Transportation Resulting from Extended Fuel Enrichment and Irradiation," dated July 7, 1988, and published in the **Federal Register** (53 FR 30355) on August 11, 1988, as corrected on August 24, 1988 (53 FR 32322) in connection with Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant Unit 1: Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact. As indicated therein, the environmental cost contribution of the proposed increase in the fuel enrichment and irradiation limits are either unchanged or may, in fact, be reduced from those summarized in Table S-4 as set forth in 10 CFR 51.52(c). Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological environment impacts associated with the proposed amendment.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts of reactor operation with higher enrichment, the proposed action involves features located entirely within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. It does not affect nonradiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action

Since the Commission has concluded there is no measurable environmental impact associated with the proposed action, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impact need not be evaluated. As an alternative to the proposed action, the staff considered denial of the proposed action. Denial of the application would result in no change in current environmental impacts. The environmental impacts of the proposed action and the alternative action are similar.

Alternative Use of Resources

This action does not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental

Statement for Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant, Unit Nos. 1 and 2.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

In accordance with its stated policy, on May 22, 1995, the staff consulted with the California State official, Mr. Steve Hsu of the Department of Health Services, regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comments.

Finding of No Significant Impact

Based upon the environmental assessment, the Commission concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, the Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed action.

For further details with respect to the proposed action, see the licensee's letter dated February 6, 1995, as supplemented by letters dated March 23, and May 22, 1995, which 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 California Polytechnic State University, Robert E. Kennedy Library, Government Documents and Maps Department, San Luis Obispo, California 93407.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 1st day of June 1995.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

William H. Bateman,

Director, Project Directorate IV-2, Division of Reactor Projects III/IV, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

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[Docket Nos. 50-277 and 50-278]

**PECO Energy Company; Notice of
Consideration of Issuance of
Amendment to Facility Operating
License and Opportunity for a Hearing**

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-44 and DPR-56 issued to PECO Energy Company (the licensee) for operation of the Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station, Units 2 and 3, located at York County, Pennsylvania.

The proposed amendment would revise the technical specification (TS) limiting condition for operation (LCO) for the Peach Bottom emergency diesel generators (EDGs). The LCOs will be revised to allow a single EDG to be out of service for a period of 30 days

provided a recently installed tie-line from the Conowingo Hydroelectric Station is operable. The allowed out of service time (AOT) for a single EDG will revert to the existing 7 day AOT if the Conowingo line is inoperable. The LCO will also be modified to address instances where either the Conowingo line or an EDG become inoperable if the other is already inoperable. The proposed amendment will add a TS reporting requirement if the Conowingo line is inoperable for 15 days. The proposed amendment will also add a surveillance requirement to verify the operability of the Conowingo line once per month.

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.

By July 7, 1995, the licensee may file a request for a hearing with respect to issuance of the amendment to the subject facility operating license and any person whose interest may be affected by this proceeding and who wishes to participate as a party in the proceeding must file a written request for a hearing and a petition for leave to intervene. Requests for a hearing and a 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 Government Publications Section, State Library of Pennsylvania, (Regional Depository) Education Building, Walnut Street and Commonwealth Avenue, Box 1601, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17105. 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 a 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 schedule 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.

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, 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 John F. Stolz: 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, and to J. W. Durham, Sr., Esquire, Sr. V.P. and General Counsel, PECO Energy Company, 2301 Market Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19101, 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).

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 April 7, 1994, as supplemented by letters dated June 2, and September 6, 1994, which 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 Government Publications Section, State Library of Pennsylvania, (REGIONAL DEPOSITORY) Education Building, Walnut Street and the Commonwealth Avenue, Box 1601, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17105.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 31st day of May, 1995.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
John F. Stolz,
 Director, Project Directorate I-2, Division of
 Reactor Projects—I/II, Office of Nuclear
 Reactor Regulation.
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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-35786; File No. SR-Amex-
 94-51]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Order Approving a Proposed Rule Change and Notice of Filing and Order Granting Accelerated Approval of Amendment Nos. 1 and 2 to the Proposed Rule Change by the American Stock Exchange, Inc. Relating to the In Person Trading Volume Requirement for Registered Option Traders

May 31, 1995.

On November 18, 1994, the American Stock Exchange, Inc. ("Amex" or "Exchange"), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") a proposal regarding the in person³ trading volume requirement for Registered Options Traders ("Traders").⁴ Notice of the proposal appeared in the **Federal Register** on December 12, 1994.⁵ No comment letters were received on the proposed rule change. The Exchange filed Amendment No. 1 to the proposal on January 9, 1995,⁶ and Amendment No. 2 on April 6, 1995.⁷ This order approves the proposal, as amended.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1) (1988).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4 (1994).

³ "In person" means that options transactions are personally executed by a Trader on the Amex floor and not through the use of orders given to a floor broker or left on a specialist's book.

⁴ Traders are considered specialists for purposes of the Act. See Amex Rule 958, Commentary .01.

⁵ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 35050 (December 5, 1994), 59 FR 64002.

⁶ As discussed herein, in Amendment No. 1 the Exchange clarifies the obligation of Traders receiving market maker treatment for off-floor transactions and proposes disciplinary measures for Traders improperly accepting market maker treatment for such transactions. See Letter from Claire McGrath, Managing Director and Special Counsel, Derivative Securities, Amex, to Michael Walinkas, Branch Chief, Office of Market Supervision ("OMS"), Division of Market Regulation ("Division"), Commission, dated January 9, 1995 ("Amendment No. 1").

⁷ In Amendment No. 2, the Exchange proposes to amend Amex Rule 958, Commentary .01 and .03, to provide that Traders must have at least 75% of their trading activity in classes in which they are assigned. Additionally, the Exchange proposes that

Specifically, the Exchange proposes to amend Rule 958 to: (1) Require Traders to execute at least 25% of his or her individual options transactions and total contract volume in each calendar quarter in person and not through the use of orders;⁸ (2) require Traders to have at least 75% of their trading activity (measured in terms of contract volume) in the classes of options to which they are assigned, as opposed to the 50% currently required;⁹ and (3) extend market maker capital and margin treatment for a Trader's opening off-floor orders provided that at least (i) 80% of their total transactions and contract volume on the Exchange in each calendar quarter are executed in person and not through the use of orders and (ii) the Trader satisfies its obligations pursuant to Rule 958.¹⁰ In addition, the proposal requires Traders to satisfy the market making obligations set forth in Amex Rule 958¹¹ for all off-floor orders for which a Trader receives market maker treatment and, in general, that those orders be effected only for purposes of hedging, reducing the risk of, rebalancing, or liquidating open positions of the Trader.

Currently, under Amex Rule 958 there is no in person trading volume or transaction requirement for Traders. The Exchange believes, however, that establishing an in person requirement for Traders of at least 25% of a Trader's individual transactions and total contract volume during each calendar

Traders who elect market maker treatment for off-floor opening transactions but fail to satisfy the requirements of Rule 958 will be referred to the Exchange's Committee on Specialist and Registered Trader Performance rather than the Exchange's Minor Floor Violation Disciplinary Committee as provided in Amendment No. 1. See Letter from Claire McGrath, Managing Director and Special Counsel, Derivative Securities, Amex, to Michael Walinkas, Branch Chief, OMS, Division, Commission, dated April 5, 1995 ("Amendment No. 2").

⁸ The proposal also gives the Exchange the authority to increase the 25% in person requirement if the Exchange, in its discretion, deems such increase to be necessary. The Exchange would not have the authority to lower the in person requirement below 25% without the prior approval of the Commission pursuant to a rule filing under Section 19b of the Act.

⁹ See Amendment No. 2, *supra* note 7.

¹⁰ See Amendment No. 1, *supra* note 6. Currently, Rule 958, Commentary .03 provides, among other things, that except for unusual circumstances, at least 50% of a Trader's trading activity in any calendar quarter (in terms of contract volume) must ordinarily be in classes of options to which the Trader is assigned. In Amendment No. 2, the Exchange proposes to amend this requirement so that at least 75% of total activity (in terms of contract volume) must be in assigned classes. See Amendment No. 2, *supra* note 7.

¹¹ These obligations include, but are not limited to, requiring that such transactions contribute to the maintenance of fair and orderly markets, and requiring market makers to bid and offer within prescribed parameters.

quarter will result in better, more liquid markets because Traders will be available in trading crowds to contribute to the maintenance of fair and orderly markets, and will encourage Traders to make more competitive bids and offers and trade for their own account when there exists a lack of price continuity, a temporary disparity between the supply of and demand for options contracts, or a temporary distortion of the price relationships between options.

With regard to market maker treatment for off-floor options transactions, Amex Rule 958(g) currently provides that only option transactions initiated on the Amex's floor count as market maker transactions. Thus, only on-floor market maker transactions qualify for favorable capital and margin treatment under the Amex's rules, even if such orders are entered to adjust or hedge the risk of positions of the Trader that result from the Trader's on-floor market making activity.¹²

The Amex states that because a Trader currently cannot effectively adjust his or her positions or engage in hedging or other risk limiting opening transactions from off the Exchange floor without incurring a significant economic penalty, Amex Traders must either be physically present on the floor at all times while the market is open, or face significant risks of adverse market movements during those times when they must necessarily be absent from the trading floor. The Amex argues that by imposing costs on certain hedging or risk-adjusting transactions of Traders, the Amex's current rules may prevent Traders from effectively discharging their market making obligations and expose them to unacceptable levels of risk. The Amex believes that the amended proposal addresses these concerns by offering Traders the opportunity to obtain market maker treatment for up to 20% of their off-floor opening transactions.

Traders who elect market maker treatment for off-floor opening transactions but fail to satisfy the proposal's requirements, including the 80% in person requirement, will be referred to the Amex's Committee on Specialist and Registered Trader Performance and subject to the disciplinary measures provided in Article V of the Exchange's Constitution.¹³ Under Article V of the Exchange's Constitution, the Exchange

¹² Questions of margin and capital treatment do not arise in connection with closing transactions initiated from off the floor, because they only reduce or eliminate existing positions.

¹³ See Amendment No. 2, *supra* note 7.