

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. The principal alternative to this action would be to deny the requested amendments. Such action would not reduce the environmental impacts of plant operations.

Alternative Use of Resources

This action does not involve the use of resources not previously considered in the "Final Environmental Statement Related to the Operation of Catawba Nuclear Station Units 1 and 2," dated January 1983.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

In accordance with its stated policy, on November 30, 1995, the NRC staff consulted with the South Carolina State official, Mr. V. Autrey of the Bureau of Radiological Health, Department of Health and Environmental Controls, 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 license amendments.

For further details with respect to this action, see the licensee's letter dated September 5, 1995, 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 York County Library, 138 East Black Street, Rock Hill, South Carolina.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 18th day of December 1995.

For The Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Leonard A. Wiens, Acting Director,
*Project Directorate II-2, Division of Reactor
Projects - I/II, Office of Nuclear Reactor
Regulation.*

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Docket No. 50-344

Portland General Electric Company; Trojan Nuclear Plant; Notice of Issuance of Environmental Assessment and Final Finding of no Significant Impact

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is considering approving a Portland General Electric (PGE) proposed decommissioning plan for the Trojan Nuclear Plant (TNP) and issuing an order authorizing decommissioning of the facility.

Description of the Proposed Action

On January 27, 1993, PGE notified the NRC of their decision to permanently cease power operations after approximately 17 years of operation. The fuel was transferred to the spent fuel pool, and on May 5, 1993, the NRC amended the TNP Facility Operating License (NFP-1) to a Possession Only License, which allows the licensee to maintain but not operate the facility. On January 26, 1995, the licensee submitted an application to terminate the TNP Possession Only License. The application for termination of the TNP license included a proposed decommissioning plan and an supplement to the environmental report. The licensee proposes to decommission the TNP using a dismantlement (DECON) approach as defined in the "Final Generic Environmental Impact Statement on Decommissioning of Nuclear Facilities" NUREG-0586, dated August 1988 (GEIS).

The licensee plans to precede the DECON radiological decontamination and dismantlement period with a five-year transition period. Transition period activities include the removal and disposal of selected large components, licensing and construction of an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI), and transfer of the fuel to the ISFSI. Assessment of the environmental impact associated with the construction and operation of the Trojan ISFSI will be conducted during the licensing of the ISFSI. Radioactive structures, systems, and components that are removed from the facility during decommissioning will be shipped to a licensed burial site for permanent disposal.

Summary of the Environmental Assessment

The purpose of decommissioning a nuclear facility is to remove the facility safely from service, and to reduce residual radioactivity at the site to levels that permit the release of the property for unrestricted use. Once this state is

reached the license granted by the NRC may be terminated.

The NRC staff has reviewed the PGE decommissioning plan, and supplemental environmental report prepared in accordance with 10 CFR 51.53(b). To document its review, the staff has prepared an environmental assessment (EA) consistent with 10 CFR 51.95(b), which examined decommissioning alternatives, non-radiological and radiological impacts of decommissioning, and effects of postulated radiological accidents during decommissioning. The alternatives available for decommissioning—DECON, ENTOMB, SAFSTOR, and No Action—are evaluated and discussed in the GEIS. Based on its review of the proposed PGE decommissioning plan, the staff has determined that the environmental impacts associated with the decommissioning of TNP in accordance with the plan are either bounded by the impacts evaluated by the GEIS or in the NRC Final Environmental Statement related to Operation of Trojan Nuclear Plant dated August 1973. The staff also finds that the proposed decommissioning of TNP is in compliance with 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix I annual design objectives for offsite releases or 10 CFR Part 20.

Final Finding of No Significant Impact

The staff has reviewed the proposed decommissioning plan and supplement to the environmental report in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR Part 51. The staff has concluded that there are no significant environmental impacts associated with the proposed action and that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Therefore, the NRC has determined, pursuant to 10 CFR 51.31, not to prepare an environmental impact statement.

For further details with respect to this action, see the licensee application for termination of license, dated January 26, 1995 and updated November 13, 1995, and the NRC staff Environmental Assessment and Safety Evaluation Report. These documents are available for public inspection at the NRC Public Document Room, Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW, Washington, DC, 20555, and at the Local Public Document Room for TNP at the Branford Price Millar Library, Portland State University, Portland, Oregon 97207. Single copies of the NRC staff Environmental Assessment and Safety Evaluation may be obtained from Dr. Michael T. Masnik, Senior Project Manager, Office of Nuclear Reactor

Regulation, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this December 18, 1995.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
Singh S. Bajwa,

Acting Director, Non-Power Reactors and Decommissioning Project Directorate, Division of Reactor Program Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

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[Docket No. 50-344]

Portland General Electric Company; Trojan Nuclear Power Station; Consideration of Issuance of an Order Authorizing Decommissioning a Facility and Opportunity for a Hearing

A. Introduction

Pursuant to 10 CFR 2.105(a)(9), the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission ("the Commission") hereby gives notice that it is considering issuance of an order under 10 CFR 50.82(e) to the Portland General Electric Company ("PGE," the licensee), for the Trojan Nuclear Power Station ("Trojan NPS"), located near Ranier, Oregon. The order would involve approval of the Trojan NPS decommissioning plan as it relates to the decommissioning of the remaining portions of the Trojan NPS.

On October 12, 1995, the Commission issued a Memorandum and Order, CLI-95-13, in which it announced that it would issue a Notice of Opportunity for a Hearing on the licensee's decommissioning plan and the application of that plan to the completion of the decommissioning of the Trojan NPS. The Commission also announced in CLI-95-13 that it would "direct an expedited hearing process in this case."

The licensee is the holder of facility Possession Only License No. NPF-1, which was issued on May 5, 1993. All spent fuel has been removed from the reactor and placed in the plant's spent fuel pool. In addition, the pressurizer and the four steam generators have been removed from the reactor containment and shipped to a low level waste disposal facility.

By issuance of this order, the licensee would be authorized to complete the decommissioning of the Trojan NPS facility in accordance with its proposed decommissioning plan, submitted on January 25, 1995, as supplemented. Under that plan, PGE intends to dismantle the Trojan facility using the DECON decommissioning alternative as defined in NUREG-0586, "Final Generic Environmental Impact Statement on

Decommissioning of Nuclear Facilities," (1988).

The licensee has proposed to precede the DECON decommissioning and dismantlement period with a five-year transition period. Proposed activities during the transition period, which began with the permanent shutdown of the facility in January 1993, include the removal and disposal of selected components, the licensing and construction of an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI), and the transfer of the spent fuel, currently in the spent fuel pool, to the ISFSI. Licensing of the ISFSI will be the subject of a separate Notice of Opportunity for a Hearing and will not be a part of the proceeding to approve the Decommissioning Plan.

Once the spent fuel has been transferred to the ISFSI the DECON phase will begin. The DECON phase will consist of the major disassembly and dismantlement of structures systems and components that are radioactive. Low level radioactive waste resulting from decommissioning activities will be shipped to a licensed waste disposal site for burial. The DECON phase will end with the site, except for the ISFSI, being released for unrestricted use.

B. Requests for Hearing and Petitions for Leave To Intervene

By January 22, 1996, the licensee may file a request for a hearing with respect to issuance of the order to the subject facility. During that same period, any other person whose interest may be affected by this proceeding and who wishes to participate as a party in the proceeding must file both a written request for a hearing and a petition for leave to intervene. Requests for a hearing and petitions 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, and the special instructions provided in this notice.

This notice provides a brief overview of the requirements in 10 CFR 2.714. However, the fact that a requirement is not addressed in this notice does not excuse compliance with that requirement. Each person seeking to participate in this proceeding is responsible for complying with all applicable requirements. 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. (Lower Level), Washington, DC 20555, or the NRC Local Public Document Room, located at the

Bandford Price Millar Library, Portland State University, 934 S.W. Harrison Street (P.O. Box 1151), Portland Oregon 97207.

If a request for hearing or a petition for leave to intervene is filed by the above date, either the Commission or an Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, designated by the Chairman of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel, will rule on the request and/or petition, and either the Secretary of the Commission 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, both a request for hearing and 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 that 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 the petitioner wishes to intervene.

C. Filing of Contentions

The Commission has determined to take several steps to expedite this proceeding. The first step toward expediting this proceeding is to require that all contentions be filed at the same time as petitions for leave to intervene. Accordingly, any person who files a request for hearing and a petition for leave to intervene shall, at the same time, submit a supplement to the petition for leave to intervene which must include a list of contentions which are sought to be litigated in the proceeding. The Commission will issue additional directions to expedite this proceeding where appropriate in the future.

Potential petitioners should not be prejudiced by this requirement because the documents which would give rise to potential disputes are already in existence and in the public domain. For example, the most important document for consideration in the formation of contentions is the licensee's proposed decommissioning plan, which has been in the public domain since January 25, 1995. The NRC Staff has now prepared