

**NUCLEAR REGULATORY
COMMISSION**

[Docket Nos. 50-373 and 50-374]

**Commonwealth Edison Company;
Notice of Withdrawal of Application for
Amendments to Facility Operating
Licenses**

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has granted the request of Commonwealth Edison Company (ComEd, the licensee) to withdraw its June 21, 1996, application for proposed amendment to Facility Operating License Nos. NPF-11 and NPF-18 for the LaSalle County Station, Units 1 and 2, located in LaSalle County, Illinois.

The proposed amendment would have revised the technical specifications (TS) by extending the surveillance interval for testing of the Control Room and Auxiliary Electric Equipment Room Emergency Filtration System from 18 months to 24 months and would have allowed a one-time extension of the allowed outage time for this system from 7 days to 30 days.

The Commission had previously issued a Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment published in the Federal Register on August 14, 1996 (61 FR 42278). However, by letter dated October 8, 1996, the licensee withdrew the proposed change.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated June 21, 1996, and the licensee's letter dated October 8, 1996, 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 Jacobs Memorial Library, Illinois Valley Community College, Oglesby, Illinois 61348.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 1st day of November 1996.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Donna M. Skay,

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

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[Docket No. 50-368]

**Entergy Operations, Inc.; Notice of
Denial of Amendment to Facility
Operating License and Opportunity for
Hearing**

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has denied a request by Entergy Operations, Inc., (licensee) for an amendment to Facility Operating License No. NPR-6 issued to the licensee for operation of the Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit No. 2, located in Pope County, Arkansas. A Notice of Consideration of Issuance of this amendment was not published in the Federal Register.

The purpose of the licensee's amendment request was to revise the Technical Specifications (TSs) to relocate the reactor coolant system (RCS) flow rate limit to the core operating limits report (COLR).

The NRC staff has concluded that the licensee's request cannot be granted. The licensee was notified of the Commission's denial of the proposed change by a letter dated November 1, 1996.

By December 9, 1996, 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: 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.

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 Nicholas S. Reynolds, Esquire, Winston and Strawn, 1400 L Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20005-3502, attorney for the licensee.

For further details with respect to this action, see (1) the application for amendment dated August 23, 1996, and (2) the Commission's letter to the licensee dated November 1, 1996.

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 Tomlinson Library, Arkansas Tech University, Russellville, AR 72801.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 1st day of November 1996.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
William D. Beckner,
*Project Director, Project Directorate IV-1,
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV Office of
Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*
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[Docket No. 030-00692]

**Indiana University, Environmental
Assessment: Finding of No Significant
Impact and Notice of Opportunity for
Hearing Related to Amendment of
Material License Number 13-00108-05**

ACTION: The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is considering an amendment to NRC License No. 13-00108-05, for use of carbon-14 (¹⁴C) to conduct a field study on mayapple plants in Monroe County, Indiana. A similar project was approved by NRC in 1988 (Amendment 45 to the license).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:
Sami Sherbini, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, MS T8F5, Washington DC 20555, telephone (301) 415-7902.

Environmental Assessment

Description of Proposed Action

The proposed action is to amend NRC Byproduct Material License No. 13-00108-05 to authorize Indiana University to conduct field studies using small quantities of ¹⁴C to label mayapple plants. The total amount of ¹⁴C involved is not to exceed 444 megabecquerels (MBq) [12millicuries (mCi)], to be administered over a period of 2 years starting in the spring of 1997.

Experimental Procedure

Indiana University was previously authorized by NRC, in 1988, to conduct field studies similar to those presently being considered. The 1988 studies involved administration of 1260 MBq (34 mCi) of ¹⁴C, and the proposed study will use 444 MBq (12 mCi).

The purpose of the project is to assess the use of carbon by the mayapple plant, *Podophyllum peltatum*. This is achieved by exposing each plant, in the field, to gaseous ¹⁴CO₂ for a period of 30 minutes, during which time some of the gas will be absorbed by the plant. Labeled plants are left in the field for a period of 1 year, after which the plants are harvested. A total of 475 plants are expected to be involved during the study, which is to be conducted over a 2-year period. The first phase is expected to start in the spring of 1997 and end with the harvesting of the labeled plants in 1998, at which time