

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Becky Baker, Secretary of the Board,
Telephone 703-518-6304.

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Secretary of the Board.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-423]

Northeast Nuclear Energy Co.; 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 June 30, 1997, application for proposed amendment to Facility Operating License No. NPF-49 for the Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit 3, located in New London County, Connecticut.

Technical Specifications 4.6.1.1, 3/4.6.1.2, and 3/4.6.1.3 require the testing of the containment to verify leakage limits at a specified test pressure. The proposed amendment would have (1) modified the list of valves that can be opened in Modes 1 through 4, (2) added a footnote on procedure controls, (3) removed a footnote on Type A testing, and (4) made editorial changes to the Technical Specifications and associated Bases sections.

The Commission had previously issued a Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment published in the **Federal Register** on July 30, 1997 (62 FR 40854). However, by letter dated October 7, 1997, the licensee withdrew the proposed change.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated June 30, 1997, and the licensee's letter dated October 7, 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, MD, this 15th day of October 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
Stephen Dembek,
*Project Manager, Special Projects Office—
Licensing Office of Nuclear Reactor
Regulation.*

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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

Pacific Gas and Electric Co.; 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 an exemption from certain requirements of its regulations for Facility Operating Licenses Nos. DPR-80 and DPR-82, issued to Pacific Gas and Electric Company (the licensee), for operation of the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant (DCNPP), Unit Nos. 1 and 2, located in San Luis Obispo County, California.

Environmental Assessment

Identification of Proposed Action

The proposed action is in response to the licensee's application dated December 8, 1997, for exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4) regarding submission of revisions to the Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR) and design change reports for the facility changes made under 10 CFR 50.59 for DCNPP. Under the proposed exemption, the licensee would schedule updates to the single, unified FSAR for DCNPP based on the refueling cycle of Unit 2.

The Need for the Proposed Action

Section 50.71(e)(4) requires licensees to submit updates to their FSAR within 6 months after each refueling outage providing that the interval between successive updates does not exceed 24 months. Since Units 1 and 2 of DCNPP share a common FSAR, the licensee must update the same document within 6 months after a refueling outage for either unit. Allowing the exemption would maintain the FSAR current within 24 months of the last revision and still would not exceed a 24-month interval for submission of the 10 CFR 50.59 design change report for either unit.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

No changes are being made in the types or amounts of any radiological effluent that may be released off site.

There is no significant increase in the allowable individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The Commission concludes that granting the proposed exemption would result in no significant radiological environmental impact.

With regard to potential non-radiological impacts, the proposed exemption does not affect non-radiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. The Commission concludes that there are no significant non-radiological impacts associated with the proposed exemption.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action

As an alternative to the proposed exemption, the staff considered denial of the requested exemption. Denial of the request 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 Statements related to the operation of the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant, Unit Nos. 1 and 2 dated May 1973.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

In accordance with its stated policy, on February 26, 1998, the staff consulted with the California State official, Mr. Steve Hsu of the Radiologic Health Branch of the State 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 foregoing 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 exemption.

For further details with respect to the proposed action, see the licensee's letter dated December 8, 1997, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, which is located at The Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, D.C., 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.