For the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board.

Charles Bechhoefer,

Chairman, Administrative Judge.

[FR Doc. 98–9999 Filed 4–14–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590–01–P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 40–8968–ML; ASLBP No. 95–706–01–ML]

Hydro Resources, Inc.; Notice of Reconstitution

Pursuant to the authority contained in 10 CFR 2.721 and 2.1207, the Presiding Officer in the captioned Subpart L proceeding is hereby replaced by appointing Administrative Judge Peter B. Bloch as Presiding Officer in place of Chief Administrative Judge B. Paul Cotter, Jr.

All correspondence, documents and other material shall be filed with the Presiding Officer in accordance with 10 CFR 2.1203 (1997). The address of the new Presiding Officer is: Administrative Judge Peter B. Bloch, Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555.

Issued at Rockville, Maryland, this 9th day of April 1998.

B. Paul Cotter, Jr.,

Chief Administrative Judge, Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel.

[FR Doc. 98–9996 Filed 4–14–98; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Illinois Power Company; Notice of Withdrawal of Application for Exemption to 10 CFR 50, Appendix A, General Design Criterion 17 and Amendment to Facility Operating License

[Docket No. 50–461]

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has granted the request of Illinois Power Company (the licensee) to withdraw its July 22, 1997, application for proposed exemption to 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix A, General Design Criterion (GDC) 17, ''Electric Power Systems,'' and amendment to Facility Operating License No. NPF–62 for the Clinton Power Station, located in DeWitt County, Illinois.

The proposed exemption and amendment would have temporarily permitted plant operation with one fully qualified offsite circuit and one circuit that does not strictly conform to the capacity and capability requirements of GDC–17.

The Commission had previously issued an environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact published in the **Federal Register** on July 25, 1997 (62 FR 40123). However, by letter dated September 30, 1997, the licensee withdrew the proposed change.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for exemption and amendment dated July 22, 1997, supplemented July 23, August 1, and August 12, 1997, and the licensee's letter dated September 30, 1997, which withdrew the application for exemption and 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 Vespasian Warner Public Library, 310 N. Quincy Street, Clinton, IL 61727.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 8th day of April 1998.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Jon B. Hopkins,

Senior Project Manager, Project Directorate III–3, Division of Reactor Projects—III/IV, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 98–9995 Filed 4–14–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590–01–P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50–146]

Saxton Nuclear Experimental Corporation, GPU Nuclear, Inc.; Notice of Issuance of Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact; Saxton Nuclear Experimental Facility

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering the issuance of a license amendment to the Saxton Nuclear Experimental Corporation (SNEC) and GPU Nuclear, Inc. (the licensees) that would allow decommissioning of the Saxton Nuclear Experimental Facility (SNEF) located near Saxton, Pennsylvania.

Description of Proposed Action

The proposed action is immediate dismantlement (the DECON alternative) of the SNEF. The licensees have requested an amendment to Amended Facility License No. DPR–4 that would allow decommissioning of the SNEF by changing the license and technical specifications to (1) accommodate decommissioning activities at the SNEF, (2) establish specific technical specification controls over decommissioning activities, (3) establish limiting conditions for performing decommissioning activities, (4) extend exclusion area controls to include the SNEF Decommissioning Support Facility, (5) establish requirements for a Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program and an Off-Site Dose Calculation Manual, and (6) establish requirements for Technical and Independent Safety Reviews.

Built in 1960–62 under a license to SNEC, the facility was operated from 1962 to 1972 primarily for research and training. In 1972, the SNEF was shut down and placed in a condition equivalent to what is now defined by the NRC as ''SAFSTOR'' (safe storage) and its operating license was changed to possession-only status. In 1972, all fuel, the control rod blades, and the superheated steam test loop were removed from the SNEF containment vessel (CV) and returned to the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission at its Savannah River Plant in South Carolina. After the fuel was removed, equipment, most tanks, and piping external to the CV were also removed. Buildings and structures that supported reactor operations were partially decontaminated in 1972–74. Final decontamination of reactor support structures and buildings was done in 1987–89. This process included decontamination of the Control and Auxiliary Building, Radioactive Waste Disposal Facility, Yard Pipe Tunnel, and Filled Drum Storage Bunker, as well as removal of the Refueling Water Storage Tank. After acceptance of the final release survey by the NRC, these buildings were demolished in 1992. The Saxton Soil Remediation Project was completed in November 1994 which removed and shipped to a licensed radioactive waste disposal facility soil that was located within the site perimeter and found to be contaminated with radioactive material.

In preparation for release of the site for unrestricted use, the licensees now propose to decontaminate and dismantle the SNEF CV; the concrete shield wall located around the northwest and northeast quadrants of the CV; the tunnel sections that are immediately adjacent to the outer circumference of the CV; and remaining portions of the septic system, weirs, and associated underground piping. These structures contain known or suspected residual radioactive material.