

that are due to the Commission by March 31, 2001.

Richard Schiff,

Acting Chief of Staff, National Indian Gaming Commission.

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NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Advisory Panel for Biological Infrastructure; Notice of Meeting

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, as amended), the National Science Foundation announces the following meeting:

Name: Advisory Panel for Biological Infrastructure (1215).

Date & Time: March 15, 2001, 1 pm-5 pm; March 16, 2001, 8 am-12 pm.

Place: Room 130, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA.

Type of Meeting: Closed.

Contact Person: Ms. Carter Kinsey, Program Manager, Minority Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Program, Division of Biological Infrastructure, Room 615, NSF, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230, (703) 292-8470.

Purpose of Meeting: To provide advice and recommendations concerning proposals submitted to the NSF for financial support.

Agenda: To review and evaluate Minority Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Program proposals as part of the selection process for awards.

Reason for Closing: The proposals being reviewed include information of a proprietary or confidential nature, including technical information; financial data, such as salaries; and personal information concerning individuals associated with the proposals. These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(4) and (6) of the Government Sunshine Act.

Dated: February 21, 2001.

Susanne Bolton,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 01-4717 Filed 2-26-01; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-413]

Duke Energy Corporation; Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating License, Proposed No Significant Hazards Consideration Determination, and Opportunity for a Hearing

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment

to Facility Operating License No. NPF-35 issued to Duke Energy Corporation, et al., (the licensee) for operation of the Catawba Nuclear Station, Unit 1, located in York County, South Carolina.

The proposed amendment would modify the Required Actions for the Engineered Safety Feature Actuation System (ESFAS) Table 3.3.2-1, function 6.f (auxiliary feedwater (AFW), auxiliary feedwater pump train A and train B suction transfer on suction pressure—low) on a one time basis. The proposed one time change will require that if more than 1 channel of low suction pressure instrumentation becomes inoperable, the licensee will immediately enter the applicable Condition(s) or Required Action(s) for the associated AFW train made inoperable by the inoperable channels. This modification will support the timely replacement of a broken pressure switch in the Train B of AFW Suction Transfer on low suction pressure function.

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.

The Commission has made a proposed determination that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration. Under the Commission's regulations in 10 CFR 50.92, this means that operation of the facility in accordance with the proposed amendment would not (1) involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated; or (2) create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated; or (3) involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety. As required by 10 CFR 50.91(a), the licensee has provided its analysis of the issue of no significant hazards consideration, which is presented below:

The following discussion is a summary of the evaluation of the changes contained in this proposed amendment against the 10 CFR 50.92(c) requirements to demonstrate that all three standards are satisfied. A no significant hazards consideration is indicated if operation of the facility in accordance with the proposed amendment would not:

1. Involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated, or
2. Create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated, or
3. Involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety.

First Standard

Implementation of this amendment would not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated. Approval of this one time amendment will have no effect on accident probabilities or consequences. For the proposed change, the equipment referenced in the affected TS (ESFAS instrumentation) is not accident initiating equipment; therefore, there will be no impact on any accident probabilities by the approval of this amendment. The design function of the equipment is not being modified by these proposed changes. The proposed one time change is not increasing the time already evaluated for an AFW train to be out of service. Therefore, there will be no impact on any accident consequences.

Second Standard

Implementation of this one time amendment would not create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated. No new accident causal mechanisms are created as a result of NRC approval of this amendment request. No changes are being made to the plant that will introduce any new accident causal mechanisms. This one time amendment request does not impact any plant systems that are accident initiators; therefore, no new accident types can be created.

Third Standard

Implementation of this one time amendment would not involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety. Margin of safety is related to the confidence in the ability of the fission product barriers to perform their design functions during and following an accident situation. These barriers include the fuel cladding, the reactor coolant system, and the containment system. The performance of these fission product barriers will not be impacted by implementation of this proposed one time amendment. The equipment referenced in the affected TS for proposed one time change is already capable of performing as designed. Therefore, a significant reduction in the margin of safety is not created by this one time TS change.

The NRC staff has reviewed the licensee's analysis and, based on this review, it appears that the three standards of 10 CFR 50.92(c) are satisfied. Therefore, the NRC staff proposes to determine that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration.

The Commission is seeking public comments on this proposed determination. Any comments received within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice will be considered in making any final determination.

Normally, the Commission will not issue the amendment until the expiration of the 30-day notice period. However, should circumstances change during the notice period such that