



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

August 11, 2000

Mr. Mike Reandeau
Director - Licensing
Clinton Power Station
P.O. Box 678
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Clinton, IL 61727

SUBJECT: CLINTON POWER STATION, UNIT 1 - ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT
(TAC NO. MA9268)

Dear Mr. Reandeau:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No.131 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-62 for the Clinton Power Station, Unit 1. The amendment is in response to your application dated June 19, 2000 (U-603378).

The amendment changes the leak rate test frequency for the primary containment feedwater penetrations sealed by the Feedwater Leakage Control System.

A copy of the Safety Evaluation is also enclosed. The Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's next biweekly Federal Register notice.

Sincerely,

Jon B. Hopkins, Senior Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate III
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-461

Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. 131 to NPF-62
2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

August 11, 2000

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Director - Licensing
Clinton Power Station
P.O. Box 678
Clinton, IL 61727

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*See previous concurrence

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Mike Reandeau

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
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AMERGEN ENERGY COMPANY, LLC

DOCKET NO. 50-461

CLINTON POWER STATION, UNIT 1

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 131
License No. NPF-62

1. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
 - A. The application for amendment by AmerGen Energy Company, LLC (the licensee), dated June 19, 2000 (U-603378), complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
 - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;
 - C. There is reasonable assurance (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations;
 - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
 - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.
2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment, and paragraph 2.C.(2) of Facility Operating License No. NPF-62 is hereby amended to read as follows:

(2) Technical Specifications and Environmental Protection Plan

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A and the Environmental Protection Plan contained in Appendix B, as revised through Amendment No.131, are hereby incorporated into this license. AmerGen Energy Company, LLC shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications and the Environmental Protection Plan.

3. This license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance and shall be implemented within 30 days of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Handwritten signature of Claudia M. Craig in black ink.

Anthony J. Mendiola, Chief, Section 2
Project Directorate III
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment: Changes to the Technical
Specifications

Date of Issuance: August 11, 2000

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 131

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-62

DOCKET NO. 50-461

Replace the following pages of the Appendix "A" Technical Specifications with the attached revised pages. The revised pages are identified by amendment number and contain marginal lines indicating the areas of change.

Remove Pages

3.6-19a

Insert Pages

3.6-19a

SURVEILLANCE		FREQUENCY
SR 3.6.1.3.11	<p>-----NOTE-----</p> <p>Only required to be met in MODES 1, 2, and 3.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Verify that the combined leakage rate for both primary containment feedwater penetrations is ≤ 3 gpm when pressurized to $\geq 1.1 P_a$.</p>	In accordance with the Primary Containment Leakage Rate Testing Program
SR 3.6.1.3.12	Verify each instrumentation line excess flow check primary containment isolation valve actuates within the required range.	18 months



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SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 131 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-62

AMERGEN ENERGY COMPANY, LLC

CLINTON POWER STATION, UNIT 1

DOCKET NO. 50-461

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated June 19, 2000, AmerGen Energy Company, LLC (the licensee) proposed an amendment to the Clinton Power Station (CPS) Technical Specifications. The proposed amendment would change the leak rate test frequency for the primary containment feedwater penetrations sealed by the Feedwater Leakage Control System (FWLCS) from a specific test interval of 18 months to a frequency based on the performance-based Primary Containment Leakage Rate Testing Program. Additionally, an administrative change was requested to reverse the order of Technical Specification (TS) Surveillance Requirements 3.6.1.3.11 and 3.6.1.3.12. The administrative change was requested because it would group TS 3.6.1.3.12 with other TS having the same applicability and frequency.

2.0 BACKGROUND

On April 25, 2000, license Amendment No. 127 was issued for CPS, which supported implementation of a FWLCS to provide an enhanced means of isolating the primary containment feedwater penetrations by providing a water seal following a loss-of-coolant accident. With the FWLCS, the primary containment feedwater penetrations are now leak tested with water instead of air.

The new water surveillance tests for these penetrations expire on August 13 and October 5, 2000. The seventh refueling outage (RF-7) is planned to commence on October 15, 2000. The licensee requests that performance of the surveillance tests be delayed to RF-7 instead of having to do a special plant shutdown to solely perform these surveillance tests. This request is consistent with the issuance of license Amendment No. 125 dated March 17, 2000, and Amendment No. 129 dated June 12, 2000, supporting extension of various TS surveillance requirements until RF-7, so as to avoid a special shutdown for performance of the surveillances.

3.0 EVALUATION

Leak tests of the feedwater (FW) penetrations are not unlike other containment penetration leak tests performed pursuant to 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix J. Specifying a TS surveillance

frequency in accordance with the Primary Containment Leakage Rate Testing Program (CLRTP) for the FW penetrations is consistent with other containment penetration surveillance intervals.

The FW penetrations will be leak tested every refueling outage in accordance with the program, which is the intent of the current TS frequency of 18 months plus or minus 25 percent (4 1/2 months) for a maximum of 22 1/2 months between tests. Per the program, the maximum interval between leak tests will be 30 months. This extra amount of time allowed between tests will allow more flexibility in case there is an extended plant shutdown. This is because the plant is on an 18-month fuel cycle, and the intent of both the 18-month test requirement and the program test requirement is to test the FW penetrations each refueling outage. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff finds that testing the FW penetrations on a frequency in accordance with the CLRTP is consistent with other containment penetration testing and is acceptable to the staff.

With regard to the effect of extending the surveillance intervals to the upcoming refueling outage from August 13 and October 5, 2000, by changing the frequency to the CLRTP, the scheduled maximum extension is just for 2 months for one of the FW penetrations and 10 days for the other before the plant is shutdown. This is a small amount of time and is not expected to result in any leakage problem due to the extension. Also, this extension is necessary because the FW penetrations are now subject to water tests because of the implementation of license Amendment No. 127. If the FW penetrations were still subject to air tests, the surveillance interval would last until the upcoming refueling outage and no extensions would be needed. This is because the air tests were performed after the water tests during the last refueling outage. Air tests are typically more conservative than water tests and the successful air tests performed last refueling outage give additional assurance that a plant shutdown to perform FW penetration water leak tests is not necessary. The NRC staff has reviewed the extensions of the FW penetrations surveillance interval until the upcoming refueling outage and based on the above, the staff finds the extensions acceptable.

An administrative change was requested to reverse the order of TS Surveillance Requirements 3.6.1.3.11 and 3.6.1.3.12. The change was requested because it would group current TS 3.6.1.3.12 with other TS having the same applicability and frequency (i.e., other TS that refer to the CLRTP). This change is acceptable to the NRC staff.

Finally, the licensee submitted its planned changes to the TS bases. The planned TS bases changes would refer to the CLRTP for the testing frequency and reflect the renumbered TS. The planned TS bases changes are acceptable to the NRC staff.

The NRC staff has reviewed the proposed change to the FW penetration leak test frequency from 18 months to in accordance with the CLRTP, and based on the above, the staff finds the proposed change acceptable.

4.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the Illinois State official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendment. The State official had no comments.

5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

This amendment changes a surveillance requirement. The NRC staff has determined that the amendment involves no significant increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types, of any effluents that may be released offsite, and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The Commission has previously issued a proposed finding that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration and there has been no public comment on such finding (65 FR 41103). Accordingly, the amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b), no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendment.

6.0 CONCLUSION

The staff has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributor: J. Hopkins

Date: August 11, 2000