

BOSTON EDISON COMPANY
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BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02199

J. EDWARD HOWARD
VICE PRESIDENT
NUCLEAR

November 13, 1979

BECO. Ltr. #79-236

Proposed Tech. Spec.
Change No. 79-8

Mr. Thomas A. Ippolito, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #3
Division of Operating Reactors
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

License No. DPR-35
Docket No. 50-293

Proposed Technical Specification Change
Re: Core Spray and Containment Cooling System

Dear Sir:

Introduction

Pursuant to Section 50.90 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations, Boston Edison Company hereby proposes the following modification to Appendix A of Operating License No. DPR-35.

Proposed Change

Technical Specification Section 3.5, 3.7 and the corresponding bases should be modified as shown in Attachment A. The changes from the existing Technical Specifications are indicated by vertical bars in the right margin. The essence of the changes are to allow the torus to be drained or a single control rod drive to be removed with irradiated fuel in the reactor when additional safety measures are adhered to.

Reason for Change

This change allows Boston Edison to optimize critical path time during refueling and other outages by performing certain work items in parallel rather than in series. The benefit of the reduced outage time accrues to the consumer since less, higher cost replacement power is needed.

Safety Considerations

This proposed Technical Specification change is similar in approach to that granted to Millstone Nuclear Power Station Unit #1 (Docket No. 50-245, License DPR-21, Amendment #46) on March 10, 1978.

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The proposed changes to Sections 3.5 and 3.7 provide for the same degree of emergency safeguards protection during refueling as do the existing Technical Specifications 3.5 and 3.7, in that core cooling capability is not compromised while the torus is in a drained condition, since any leakage from the reactor vessel (via control rod blade) would enter into the torus and after accumulating 140,000 gallons of water, the torus would then serve as a common suction header for closed loop operation of LPCI or Core Spray. Maintaining the water inventory in the refuel cavity and dryer/separator pool at approximately 350,000 gallons provides assurance that should any leakage occur, water volume inventory is sufficient to protect the core and reactor components prior to the requirement for use of LPCI or Core Spray to maintain reactor water level.

This Technical Specification change has been reviewed and approved by the Operations Review Committee and reviewed by the Nuclear Safety Review and Audit Committee.

Schedule of Change

Boston Edison intends to make modifications during the January 1980 refueling outage whose duration could be minimized by use of this Technical Specification Change. Thus Boston Edison would like this proposed Technical Specification Change to be effective upon NRC approval.

Fee Consideration

In accordance with Section 170.12 of the Commission's Regulations, Boston Edison proposes this license change as a Class III since it involves a single safety issue. Accordingly a check for Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000.00) is enclosed.

If there are any further questions on this subject please feel free to contact us at your convenience.

Very truly yours,

J. Edward Howard

Attachments

3 signed originals and 37 copies

Commonwealth of Massachusetts)
County of Suffolk)

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Then personally appeared before me J. Edward Howard, who, being duly sworn, did state that he is Vice President - Nuclear of Boston Edison Company, the applicant herein, and that he is duly authorized to execute and file the submittal contained herein in the name and on behalf of Boston Edison Company and that the statements in said submittal are true to the best of his knowledge and belief.

My Commission expires: July 6, 1984

Dorothy M. Lopes
Notary Public