

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of

Docket No. 50-334

DEQUESNE LIGHT COMPANY

OHIO EDISON COMPANY

PENNSYLVANIA POWER COMPANY

(Beaver Valley Power Station
Unit No. 1)

EXEMPTION

I.

The Duquesne Light Company, Ohio Edison Company and Pennsylvania Power Company (the licensees), are the holders of Facility Operating License No. DPR-66 (the license) which authorizes operation of the Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit No. 1 at steady state reactor power level not in excess of 2652 MWth. The license provides, among other things, that it is subject to all rules, regulations and orders of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) now and hereafter in effect.

The facility comprises a pressurized water reactor at the licensee's site located at Beaver County, Pennsylvania.

II.

Section 50.54(a) of 10 CFR Part 50 requires a licensee authorized to operate a nuclear power reactor to follow and maintain in effect emergency plans which meet the standards of 10 CFR 50.47(b) and the requirements of Appendix E to 10 CFR Part 50. Section IV.F of Appendix E requires each licensee to conduct an emergency preparedness exercise annually. The last annual exercise at Beaver Valley was held on June 27, 1984. The exercise date

was changed in 1984 due to a request by FEMA Region III (Exemption dated October 12, 1983).

By letter dated September 11, 1984, the licensee requested an exemption to change the annual emergency exercise anniversary date from February 1985 to September 1985. The licensee stated that the change of exercise date for 1985 would enable use of a new simulator facility to develop operational data needed for the exercise. The use of this simulator will provide realistic detailed operational data for the exercise, and thereby will provide more meaningful training. This change will facilitate better coordination among the several NRC and FEMA Regions responsible for ensuring an adequate state of emergency preparedness. Three FEMA Regions and two NRC Regions have jurisdiction within parts of the emergency planning area surrounding the facility. The licensee further stated that, based on the current Beaver Valley Unit 2 construction schedule, this change will also eliminate the need for two separate emergency exercises in 1986. Since the emergency organization and major facilities are the same for both units, the schedule change would provide a better, more realistic training opportunity for this dual-unit site. The licensee also stated that the requested change would provide an opportunity to exercise the emergency plan in various weather conditions, as recommended in NUREG-0654/FEMA-REP-1.

The licensee has previously conducted full scale exercises on February 17, 1982, February 16, 1983, and June 27, 1984. During the June 27, 1984 exercise, minor deficiencies were identified involving the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and Hancock County, West Virginia. Action to correct these deficiencies is being taken by appropriate offsite authorities. The exercise scheduled for 1985 is a partial one with limited offsite involvement and without FEMA observation.

There was no evidence that the delay in conducting the 1984 emergency exercise caused any adverse effects on the state of the licensee's emergency preparedness. There is no reason to expect that a change of the 1985 exercise date would adversely affect the state of emergency preparedness at the Beaver Valley site.

Based on the above discussion, we conclude that a schedular exemption can be granted for the 1985 exercise, and September of each year be designated for scheduling future exercises.

III.

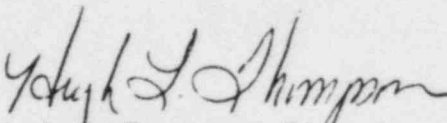
Accordingly, the Commission has determined that, pursuant to 10 CFR Part 50.12, an exemption is authorized by law and will not endanger life or property or the common defense and security and is otherwise in the public interest and hereby grants an exemption with respect to the requirements of 10 CFR 50, Appendix E, Section IV.F., as follows:

The next emergency preparedness exercise at the Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit No. 1, shall be conducted during September 1985. The date for scheduling subsequent annual emergency exercises for the Beaver Valley Power Station site shall be September of each year.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.32, the Commission has determined that the issuance of the Exemption will have no significant impact on the environment (50 FR 15514, April 18, 1985).

This exemption is effective upon issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION


Hugh L. Thompson, Director
Division of Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland
this 25th day of April, 1985