



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE
OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
SUPPORTING AMENDMENT NO. 14 TO
FACILITY LICENSE R-95
RHODE ISLAND ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
DOCKET NO. 50-193

Introduction

By a letter dated April 24, 1985, the Rhode Island Atomic Energy Commission requested an amendment to their Technical Specifications that would change the range of pH of the secondary coolant from 5.5-7.5 to 5.5-9.0. This change was requested in order for the facility to respond to a change in water treatment by the water company that supplies the secondary coolant water.

Evaluation

This change in the pH range of the secondary coolant water is required because the pH of the water entering this facility has been increased by the water company from about 6 to 7.4. The original pH range was established to protect an aluminum heat exchanger, which was replaced by a type 304 stainless steel heat exchanger. The secondary coolant system is now composed of a type 304 stainless steel heat exchanger, a redwood cooling tower with a concrete base, and type 6061 aluminum piping. None of the aluminum piping is embedded. An upper limit of pH 9 is acceptable for the aluminum piping because of its thickness and because of its accessibility for inspection and replacement. As the pressure of the secondary coolant system is higher than the primary system, any leakage that might occur will be from the secondary to the primary system, resulting in no release to the environment of any radioactive effluents. Leakage from the secondary system to the environment will not contain any radioactivity.

The staff, therefore, concludes that there will be no decrease in any of the safety aspects concerned with monitoring of the liquid or gaseous discharges from reactor operations.

Environmental Consideration

This amendment changes requirements with respect to the installation or use of a facility component located within the restricted area, as defined in

10 CFR Part 20. The amendment involves no significant hazards consideration, there is no significant change in the types or significant increase in the amounts of any effluents that may be released offsite, and there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. Accordingly, this 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 this amendment.

Conclusion

Based on the foregoing considerations, the staff concludes that the proposed change can be made without undue risk to the health and safety of the public or operators, and without any significant impact on the environment.

Dated: May 10, 1985