

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONDAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVEDOCKET NO. 50-409ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OFNO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an exemption from the scheduler requirement of 10 CFR 50.71(e)(3)(ii) to the Dairyland Power Cooperative (DPC) (the licensee) for the La Crosse Boiling Water Reactor (LACBWR), located at the licensee's site in Vernon County, Wisconsin.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTIdentification of Proposed Action:

The proposed action would grant an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 50.71(e)(3)(ii) to submit an updated Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR) for the La Crosse Boiling Water reactor within 24 months of receipt of a letter notifying the licensee that the systematic evaluation program has been completed. By letter dated July 20, 1983, the staff informed DPC that the systematic evaluation program had been completed for LACBWR and that, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.71(e)(3), the licensee was required to file an updated FSAR. By letter dated July 12, 1985, the licensee requested an exemption to defer submittal of the updated FSAR for 60 days. The deferral of submittal of the updated FSAR is the proposed action being considered by the staff.

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The Need for Proposed Action:

The final report, "Integrated Plant Safety Assessment, Systematic Evaluation Program" for the LACBWR, NUREG-0827, had several open items that required further evaluation and plant modifications. The licensee's July 12, 1985 letter states that these changes required the full-time utilization of LACBWR's small engineering staff and that the majority of the design changes were completed during the refueling outage in March-April 1985. Since that time, the LACBWR staff has been engaged in conducting the engineering review of the updated FSAR. The licensee indicated that it needs an additional 60 days to complete the activities associated with submitting the updated FSAR.

Environmental Impacts of Proposed Actions:

The proposed exemption affects only the required date for updating the FSAR and does not affect the risk of facility accidents. Thus, post-accident radiological releases will not differ from those determined previously, and the proposed exemption does not otherwise affect facility radiological effluents or occupational exposures. With regard to potential non-radiological impacts, the proposed exemption does not affect plant non-radiological effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes there are no measurable radiological or non-radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed exemption.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action:

Since the Commission has concluded there is no measurable environmental impact associated with the proposed exemption, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impacts need not be evaluated. The principal alternative to the exemption would be to require an earlier date for submittal of the updated FSAR. Such an action would not enhance the protection of the environment.

Alternative Use of Resources:

This action does not involve the use of resources not considered previously in the Final Environmental Statement for the La Crosse Boiling Water Reactor.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

The NRC staff reviewed the licensee's request and did not consult other agencies or persons.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

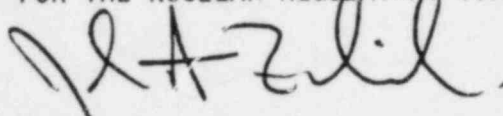
The Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed exemption. Based upon the environmental assessment, the NRC staff concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

For further details with respect to this proposed action, see the licensee's letter dated July 12, 1985. This letter is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, D. C., and at the La Crosse Public Library, 800 Main Street, La Crosse, Wisconsin 54601.

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Dated at Bethesda, Maryland, this 14th day of August 1985.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J. A. Zwolinski', written over the printed name.

John A. Zwolinski, Acting Assistant Director
for Safety Assessment
Division of Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation