

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
GENERAL PUBLIC UTILITIES NUCLEAR CORPORATION
DOCKET NO. 50-320
REVISION TO
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND NOTICE OF FINDING
OF NO SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

On September 20, 1985, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) provided notice (50 F.R. 38234) of a planned issuance of an Exemption relative to the Facility Operating License No. DPR-73, issued to General Public Utilities Nuclear Corporation (the licensee), for operation of the Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit 2 (TMI-2), located in Londonderry Township, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania. Specifically, the notice stated that the Commission was considering an exemption from certain requirements of 10 CFR 20.311(b) and 20.311(d)(1), (2) and (3) for classifying TMI-2 EPICOR II solid waste liners. Since the issuance of the aforementioned notice (50 F.R. 38234), the Commission has determined that exemption from certain requirements of 10 CFR 20.311 is unnecessary but that exemption from certain requirements of 10 CFR 61.55 is appropriate. While the environmental impacts associated with the considered exemption from 10 CFR 61.55 are no different from the impacts previously described (50 F.R. 38234) for exemption from 10 CFR 20.311, the Commission is nonetheless providing the following revised Environmental Assessment to correctly describe the action being considered (i.e., exemption from certain requirements of 10 CFR 61.55).

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of Proposed Action: The action being considered by the Commission is an exemption from certain requirements of 10 CFR 61.55 for classifying TMI-2 EPICOR II solid waste liners. Specifically 10 CFR 61.55 requires, in part, that the classification of waste for near surface disposal be in accordance with the radionuclide concentration limits provided in Tables 1 and 2 of §61.55(a)(3) and (4). For Sr-90, the concentration limit for Class A waste is 0.04 curies per cubic meter. The licensee has received a variance from the State of Washington to permit the burial, as Class A waste, of EPICOR II resin liners containing Sr-90 concentrations up to 1.0 curies per cubic meter. In order to implement this variance, the licensee requires an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 61.55 for classifying EPICOR II resin liners. This action does not involve any other exemptions and the EPICOR II resin liners will be packaged and transported in accordance with applicable Commission and Department of Transportation regulations.

The Need for the Action: The licensee has received from the State of Washington a variance to the Class A waste criteria of 10 CFR 61.55 regarding the TMI-2 EPICOR II solid waste liners to increase the upper Class A limit for Sr-90 from 0.04 uCi/cc to 1.0 uCi/cc. In order to implement this variance, the licensee requires an exemption from 10 CFR 61.55 as discussed above. Without the variance, the waste volume for disposal would significantly increase and there would be corresponding increases in occupational exposure resulting from additional waste handling without any benefit to public health and safety at the burial site.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Actions: The staff has evaluated the subject exemption and concluded that it will not result in significant increases in airborne radioactivity inside facility buildings or in corresponding releases to the environment. There are also no non-radiological impacts to the environment as a result of this action.

Alternative to this Action: Since we have concluded that the environmental effects of the proposed action and exemption are negligible, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impacts need not be evaluated. Denial of this exemption would not reduce environmental impacts of plant operations and would result in the application of overly restrictive regulatory requirements when considering the unique conditions of TMI-2.

Agencies and Persons Consulted: The NRC staff reviewed the licensee's request and consulted with the Department of Social and Health Services, State of Washington.

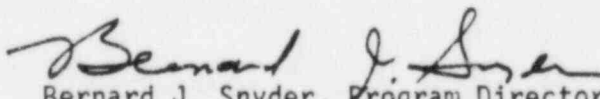
Alternate Use of Resources: This action does not involve the use of resources not previously considered in connection with the Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for TMI-2 dated March 1981.

Finding of No Significant Impact: The Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the subject Exemption. Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, we conclude that this action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

For further details with respect to this action see; (1) Letter to J. J. Barton, Metropolitan Edison Co., from B. J. Snyder, USNRC, Evaluation of EPICOR II liner disposal conditions, dated October 22, 1981; (2) Letter to L. Gronemyer, State of Washington, from B. K. Kanga, GPUNC, 10 CFR 61 Exemption, dated October 26, 1983; (3) Letter to B. J. Snyder, USNRC, from F. R. Standerfer, GPUNC, 10 CFR 20.311 Exemption Request, dated June 25, 1985; and (4) Letter to B. K. Kanga, GPUNC, from J. Stohr and M. J. Elsen, State of Washington, dated July 17, 1985.

The above documents are available for inspection at the Commission's Public Local Document Room, 1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, DC, and at the Commission's Local Public Document Room at the State Library of Pennsylvania, Government Publications Section, Education Building, Commonwealth and Walnut Streets, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17126.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION


Bernard J. Snyder, Program Director
Three Mile Island Program Office
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure 3



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

October 24, 1985

Docket No. 50-320

Docketing and Service Section
Office of the Secretary of the Commission

SUBJECT: **Three Mile Island Unit 2**
Approval of Exemption from 10 CFR 61.55

Two signed originals of the Federal Register Notice identified below are enclosed for your transmittal to the Office of the Federal Register for publication. Additional conformed copies () of the Notice are enclosed for your use.

- ☐ Notice of Receipt of Application for Construction Permit(s) and Operating License(s).
- ☐ Notice of Receipt of Partial Application for Construction Permit(s) and Facility License(s): Time for Submission of Views on Antitrust Matters.
- ☐ Notice of Availability of Applicant's Environmental Report.
- ☐ Notice of Proposed Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating License.
- ☐ Notice of Receipt of Application for Facility License(s); Notice of Availability of Applicant's Environmental Report; and Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Facility License(s) and Notice of Opportunity for Hearing.
- ☐ Notice of Availability of NRC Draft/Final Environmental Statement.
- ☐ Notice of Limited Work Authorization.
- ☐ Notice of Availability of Safety Evaluation Report.
- ☐ Notice of Issuance of Construction Permit(s).
- ☐ Notice of Issuance of Facility Operating License(s) or Amendment(s).
- ☒ Other: Exemption

Enclosure:
As Stated

Bernard J. Snyder, Program Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation



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

September 27, 1985

Docket No. 50-320

Docketing and Service Section
Office of the Secretary of the Commission

SUBJECT: Three Mile Island Unit 2
Environmental Assessment and Notice of Finding of No
Significant Environmental Impact

Two signed originals of the Federal Register Notice identified below are enclosed for your transmittal to the Office of the Federal Register for publication. Additional conformed copies () of the Notice are enclosed for your use.

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Enclosure:
As Stated

Bernard J. Snyder, Program Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation