

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

7590-01

PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO

DOCKET NO. 50-267

NOTICE OF CONSIDERATION OF ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT TO  
FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE AND PROPOSED NO SIGNIFICANT HAZARDS  
CONSIDERATION DETERMINATION

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. DPR-34 issued to Public Service Company (the licensee) for operation of the Fort St. Vrain Nuclear Generating Station located in Platteville, Colorado.

The amendment would change the Fort St. Vrain Technical Specifications concerning shock suppressors (snubbers). Specifically, the change deletes the reference to the snubber type, i.e., mechanical or hydraulic, in LCO 4.3.10 and SR 5.3.8. This deletion allows the licensee to change or modify snubbers under 10 CFR Part 50.59. This change is in accordance with NRC policy as stated in Generic Letter 84-13 on Technical Specifications for Snubbers. These revisions to the Technical Specifications would be made in response to the licensee's application for amendment dated December 6, 1985.

Before issuance of the proposed license amendment, the Commission will have made findings required by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's regulations.

The Commission has made a proposed determination that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration. Under the Commission's regulations in 10 CFR 50.92, this means that operation of the facility in accordance with the proposed amendment would not (1) involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident

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previously evaluated; or (2) create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated; or (3) involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety.

The Commission has provided guidance for the application of these criteria by providing examples of amendments that are considered not likely to involve significant hazards considerations (48 FR 14870). The proposed changes to the Fort St. Vrain Technical Specifications (LCO 4.3.10 and SR 5.3.8) pertain to deleting the distinction between hydraulic and mechanical snubbers. This change is administrative and will have no effect on the ability of a shock suppressor to provide structural integrity of a safety related system during and following a seismic or other event initiating dynamic loads. The proposed changes will not delete any requirement or the number of shock suppressors installed on safety related systems. The changes will allow an orderly transition from mechanical shock suppressors to hydraulic shock suppressors. The hydraulic shock suppressors are design equivalent and appropriately qualified to provide equivalent seismic protection.

This change is consistent with Commission's example (i) in 48 FR 14870 of examples of amendments that are considered not likely to involve significant hazards considerations. Therefore, based on these considerations and the three criteria given above, the Commission has made a proposed determination that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration.

The Commission has determined that failure to act in a timely way would result in extending the shutdown at Fort St. Vrain to avoid violating

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the Technical Specifications. Therefore, the Commission has insufficient time to issue its usual 30-day notice of the proposed action for public comment.

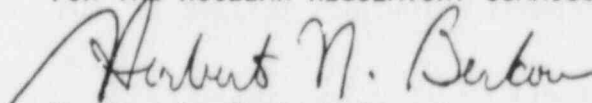
If the proposed determination becomes final, an opportunity for a hearing will be published in the Federal Register at a later date and any hearing request will not delay the effective date of the amendment.

If the Commission decides in its final determination that the amendment does involve a significant hazards consideration, a notice of opportunity for a prior hearing will be published in the Federal Register and, if a hearing is granted, it will be held before any amendment is issued.

The Commission is seeking public comments on this proposed determination of no significant hazards consideration. Comments on the proposed determination may be telephoned to Herbert N. Berkow, Director, Standardization and Special Projects Directorate, by collect call to 301-492-7564 or submitted in writing to the Rules and Procedures Branch, Division of Rules and Records, Office of Administration, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D. C. 20555. All comments received by December 27, 1985 will be considered in reaching a final determination. A copy of the application may be examined at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. and at the Greely Public Library, Greely, Colorado.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland, this 23rd day of December 1985.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Herbert N. Berkow, Director  
Standardization and Special  
Projects Directorate  
Division of PWR Licensing-B

December 23, 1985

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If the proposed determination becomes final, an opportunity for a hearing will be published in the Federal Register at a later date and any hearing request will not delay the effective date of the amendment.

If the Commission decides in its final determination that the amendment does involve a significant hazards consideration, a notice of opportunity for a prior hearing will be published in the Federal Register and, if a hearing is granted, it will be held before any amendment is issued.

The Commission is seeking public comments on this proposed determination of no significant hazards consideration. Comments on the proposed determination may be telephoned to Herbert N. Berkow, Director, Standardization and Special Projects Directorate, by collect call to 301-492-7564 or submitted in writing to the Rules and Procedures Branch, Division of Rules and Records, Office of Administration, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D. C. 20555. All comments received by December 27, 1985 will be considered in reaching a final determination. A copy of the application may be examined at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. and at the Greeley Public Library, Greeley, Colorado.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland, this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of December 1985.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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Original signed by  
Herbert N. Berkow, Director  
Standardization and Special  
Projects Directorate  
Division of PWR Licensing-B

OELD  
HBerkow  
12/13/85 12/23/85

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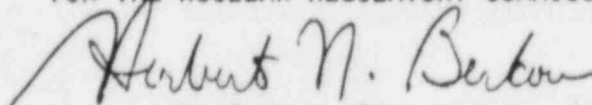
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