

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

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT APPRAISAL BY THE DIVISION OF REACTOR LICENSING

SUPPORTING AMENDMENT NO. 2 1 TO DPR-3

CHANGE NO. 12 TO THE TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

YANKEE ATOMIC ELECTRIC COMPANY

YANKEE ROWE ATOMIC POWER PLANT

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT APPRAISAL

1. Description of Proposed Action

By letter dated July 14, 1975, Yankee Atomic Electric Company submitted proposed changes to the Technical Specifications, Appendix A to License DPR-3. Supplementary information was provided by letter dated October 10, 1975. The proposed changes were requested to incorporate limiting conditions for operation resulting from the application of the Acceptance Criteria for the Emergency Core Cooling System (ECCS), and are being made in conjunction with core changeout for Core XII.

Yankee Atomic Electric Company is presently licensed to operate the Yankee Rowe Atomic Power Plant, located in Rowe, Massachusetts, at power levels up to 600 megawatt thermal (Mwt). The proposed change to incorporate the ECCS Acceptance Criteria will not result in any change in authorized power level. The restrictions on heat generation rates might require careful control of power distribution in the core. There should be no significant change in total burnup resulting from the revised FCCS evaluation methods.

2. Environmental Impacts of Proposed Action

Potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed action are those which might be associated with incorporation of the ECCS Acceptance Criteria and utilization of nuclear fuel for this Facility. It is particularly noted that, in the absence of any significant long term change in power levels, there will be no change in cooling water requirements, and consequently no increase in environmental impact from radioactive effluents and thermal effluents for normal operating or post-accident conditions which in turn could not lead to significant increase in radiation doses or thermal stress to the public or to biota in the environment.

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For normal operating conditions, no environmental impact can be predicted for the proposed action. The Commission's calculated releases or radioactive effluents, both gaseous and liquid, are based on expected release rates to the environment and are quantified on the basis of the total quantity of nuclear fuel within the reactor. The estimates of radionuclides and release rates will not be affected by the proposed action, and since the total quantity of nuclear fuel is unchanged, no increase in the calculated release of radioactive effluents is predicted. Consequently, no increases in radiation doses to man or other biota are predicted.

3. Conclusion and Basis for Negative Declaration

On the basis of the foregoing analysis, it is concluded that there will be no environmental impact attributable to the proposed action. Having made this conclusion, the Commission has further concluded that no environmental impact statement for the proposed action need be prepared and that a negative declaration to the effect is appropriate.

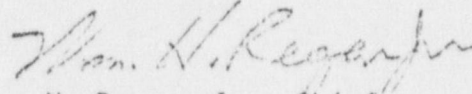
NEGATIVE DECLARATION
REGARDING PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS OF LICENSE DPR-3
YANKEE ROWE ATOMIC POWER PLANT
DOCKET NO. 50-29

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has considered the issuance of changes to the Technical Specifications of Facility Operating License No. DPR-3. These changes would authorize the Yankee Atomic Electric Company (the licensee) to operate the Yankee Rowe Atomic Power Plant (located in Rowe, Massachusetts) with changes to limiting conditions for operation associated with application of the Acceptance Criteria for Emergency Core Cooling System (ECCS). This action is being taken in conjunction with core changeout for Core XII.

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Division of Reactor Licensing, has prepared an environmental impact appraisal for the proposed changes to the Technical Specifications of License No. DPR-3, Yankee Rowe Atomic Power Plant, mentioned above. On the basis of this appraisal, the Commission has concluded that an environmental impact statement for the particular action is not warranted because there will be no environmental impact attributable to the proposed action. The environmental impact appraisal is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. and at the Greenfield Public Library, 402 Main Street, Greenfield, Massachusetts.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 5th day of November.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Wm. H. Regan, Jr.", is written above the typed name.

Wm. H. Regan, Jr., Chief
Environmental Projects Branch 4
Division of Reactor Licensing