

Dated: March 17, 1999.

Linda Allen-Benton,

Acting Division Director, Human Resource Management.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. STN 50-454, STN 50-455, STN 50-456, STN 50-457]

Commonwealth Edison Company; Notice of Issuance of Amendments to Facility Operating Licenses

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (Commission) has issued Amendment No. 106 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-37, Amendment No. 106 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-66, Amendment No. 98 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-72, and Amendment No. 98 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-77, issued to Commonwealth Edison Company (the licensee), which revised the operating licenses and the Technical Specifications for operation of Byron Station, Units 1 and 2, located in Ogle County, Illinois and Braidwood Station, Units 1 and 2, located in Will County, Illinois. The amendments are effective as of the date of issuance.

The amendments revise the Byron and Braidwood Technical Specifications (Appendix A of the operating licenses) in their entirety to be consistent with the Improved Standard Technical Specifications conveyed by NUREG-1431 (April 1995). In addition, the amendments add two new license conditions to Appendix C of the Byron and Braidwood operating licenses regarding surveillance requirements and delete one existing license condition.

The application for the amendments complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations. The Commission has made appropriate findings as required by the Act and the Commission's rules and regulations in 10 CFR Chapter I, which are set forth in the license amendments.

Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendments to Facility Operating Licenses and Opportunity for a Hearing in connection with this action was published in the **Federal Register** on October 28, 1998 (63 FR 57710), October 29, 1998 (63 FR 58072), and November 2, 1998 (63 FR 58794). No request for a hearing or petition for leave to intervene was filed following these notices.

The Commission has prepared an Environmental Assessment related to the action and has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement. Based upon the environmental assessment, the Commission has concluded that the issuance of the amendment will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment (63 FR 70440).

For further details with respect to the action see (1) the application for amendment dated December 13, 1996, as supplemented by letters dated February 24, September 2, October 10, October 28 and December 8, 1997, and January 27, January 29, February 6, February 13, February 24, February 26, April 14, April 16, June 1, June 2, July 2, July 8, July 30, July 31, August 11, August 12, September 21, September 25, October 1, October 2, October 5, October 15, October 23, November 6, November 19, November 23, November 30 and December 14, 1998, (2) Amendment No. 106 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-37, Amendment No. 106 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-66, Amendment No. 98 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-72, and Amendment No. 98 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-77, (3) the Commission's related Safety Evaluation, and (4) the Commission's related Environmental Assessment. All of these items are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room located at: for Byron, The Byron Public Library District, 109 N. Franklin, P.O. Box 434, Byron, Illinois 61010; for Braidwood, the Wilmington Public Library, 201 S. Kankakee Street, Wilmington, Illinois 60481.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 22nd day of December, 1998.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Ramin R. Assa,

Project Manager, Project Directorate III-2, Division of Reactor Projects—III/IV, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-336]

Northeast Nuclear Energy Company, et al. (Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit 2); Exemption

I

Northeast Nuclear Energy Company, et al., is the holder of Facility Operating License No. DPR-65 which authorizes operation of Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit 2. Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit 2, is a pressurized water reactor located in Waterford, Connecticut. The license provides, among other things, that the facility is subject to all rules, regulations, and orders of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission or NRC) now or hereafter in effect.

II

Appendix R, "Fire Protection Program for Nuclear Power Facilities Operating Prior to January 1, 1979," to Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR) Part 50, establishes fire protection features required to satisfy General Design Criterion 3, "Fire protection," of Appendix A to 10 CFR Part 50, with respect to certain generic issues for nuclear power plants licensed to operate prior to January 1, 1979. By letter dated July 31, 1998, as supplemented by letters dated September 24 and November 13, 1998, Northeast Nuclear Energy Company (NNECO), the licensee for Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit 2, requested four exemptions from certain requirements of 10 CFR Part 50 Appendix R. Specifically, for the Intake Structure (Appendix R Fire Area R-16) and the East 480 Volt Switchgear Room (Appendix R Fire Area R-11) the licensee requested exemptions from the requirements of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix R, Section III.G.3 to the extent it requires the licensee to have automatic fire suppression systems in these areas. For the Charging Pump Room (Appendix R Area R-4) the licensee requested an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix R, Section III.G.2 to the extent that it requires the licensee to meet the specific requirements of either Section III.G.2.a, b, or c. Finally, the licensee requested an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix R, Section III.J to the extent that it requires emergency lighting units with at least an 8-hour battery power supply to light all areas needed for operation of safe shutdown equipment and in access and egress routes thereto.