

impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comments.

Finding of No Significant Impact

On the basis of this environmental assessment, the NRC concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, the NRC has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed action.

For further details with respect to the proposed action, see the licensee's letter dated October 11, 2002. Documents may be examined, and/or copied for a fee, at the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR), located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland. Publicly available records will be accessible electronically from the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Public Electronic Reading Room on the internet at the NRC Web site, <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. Persons who do not have access to ADAMS or who encounter problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, should contact the NRC PDR Reference staff by telephone at 1-800-397-4209 or 301-415-4737, or by e-mail to pdr@nrc.gov.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 2nd day of December 2002.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Allen G. Howe,

*Chief, Section 2, Project Directorate II,
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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50-445 and 50-446]

TXU Generation Company, LP; Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station, Units 1 and 2; Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is considering issuance of amendments to Facility Operating License Nos. NPF-87 and NPF-89, issued to TXU Generation Company, LP, for operation of Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station (CPSES), Units 1 and 2, respectively. CPSES, Units 1 and 2, are located in Somerville and Hood Counties, Texas. Therefore, as required by Section 51.21, the NRC is issuing this environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact.

Environmental Assessment

Identification of the Proposed Action

The proposed action would change the CPSES Facility Operating Licenses as follows: Section 2.C.(4)(b) would be changed to be consistent with the license conditions stated in the NRC Order and Safety Evaluation dated December 21, 2001, which approved the direct transfer of ownership interest and operating authority for CPSES to TXU Generation Company LP; Section 2.E which requires reporting any violations of the requirements contained in Section 2.C of the licenses would be deleted. Additionally, Technical Specification Table 5.5-2 "Steam Generator Tube Inspection," Table 5.5-3, "Steam Generator Repaired Tube Inspection for Unit 1 Only," and Section 5.6.10, "Steam Generator Tube Inspection Report," would be revised to delete the requirement to notify the NRC pursuant to 10 CFR 50.72(b)(2) if the steam generator tube inspection results are in a C-3 classification.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application dated July 25, 2002.

The Need for the Proposed Action

The proposed action is needed to make the facility operating licenses consistent with the license conditions stated in the NRC Order and Safety Evaluation dated December 21, 2001, and to delete unnecessary reporting requirements.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

The NRC has completed its evaluation of the proposed action and concludes that the proposed amendments are administrative in nature.

The proposed action will not significantly increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types of effluents that may be released off site, and there is no significant increase in occupational or public radiation exposure. Therefore, there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

With regard to potential non-radiological impacts, the proposed action does not have a potential to affect any historic sites. It does not affect non-radiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, there are no significant non-radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Accordingly, the NRC concludes that there are no significant environmental

impacts associated with the proposed action.

Environmental Impacts of the Alternatives to the Proposed Action

As an alternative to the proposed action, the staff considered denial of the proposed action (*i.e.*, the "no-action" alternative). Denial of the application would result in no change in current environmental impacts. The environmental impacts of the proposed action and the alternative action are similar.

Alternative Use of Resources

The action does not involve the use of any different resource than those previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement related to the operation of CPSES, Units 1 and 2, dated September 1981.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

On September 24, 2002, the staff consulted with the Texas State official, Mr. Arthur Tate of the Texas Department of Health, Bureau of Radiation Control, regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comments.

Finding of No Significant Impact

On the basis of the environmental assessment, the NRC concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, the NRC has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed action.

For further details with respect to the proposed action, see the licensee's letter dated July 25, 2002. Documents may be examined, and/or copied for a fee, at the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR), located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland. Publicly available records will be accessible electronically from the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Public Electronic Reading Room on the Internet at the NRC Web site, <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. Persons who do not have access to ADAMS or who encounter problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, should contact the NRC PDR Reference staff by telephone at 1-800-397-4209 or 301-415-4737, or by e-mail to pdr@nrc.gov.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 19th day of November, 2002.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Robert A. Gramm,

*Chief, Section 1, Project Directorate IV,
Division of Licensing Project Management,
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 70-1151]

Environmental Assessment and Final Finding of No Significant Impact of License Amendment for Westinghouse Electric Company LLC

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory
Commission.

ACTION: Amendment of Westinghouse
Electric Company LLC, Materials
License SNM-1107 to exempt the
licensee from the fissile material
package standards for shipment of
certain bulk materials (e.g. radwaste)
containing low concentrations of
uranium-235 contamination and to
impose limits on these shipments.

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory
Commission is considering the
amendment of Special Nuclear Material
License SNM-1107 to exempt the
licensee from the fissile material
package standards for shipment of
certain bulk materials (e.g. radwaste)
containing low concentrations of
uranium-235 contamination at the
Westinghouse Electric Company LLC
facility located in Columbia, SC, and to
impose limits on these shipments, and
has prepared an Environmental
Assessment in support of this action.

Environmental Assessment

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Background

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission
(NRC) staff has evaluated the
environmental impacts of the exemption
of Westinghouse Electric Company from
the fissile material package standards
for shipment of certain bulk materials
(e.g. radwaste) containing low
concentrations of uranium-235
contamination, with limits placed on
the shipments to ensure adequate
controls for nuclear criticality safety.
This Environmental Assessment (EA)
has been prepared pursuant to NRC
regulations (10 CFR Part 51) which
implement the requirements of the
National Environmental Policy Act
(NEPA) of 1969. The purpose of this
document is to assess the environmental
consequences of the proposed license
amendment.

The Westinghouse facility in
Columbia, SC, is authorized under NRC
Materials License SNM-1107 to
manufacture nuclear reactor fuel
utilizing Special Nuclear Material
(SNM), specifically low-enriched
uranium, and to receive, possess, use,
store and transfer source material. These
activities generate low-level, radioactive
waste. Examples of this waste include,
but are not limited to, dry activated
waste such as pipes, building debris,
insulation, wire, concrete, plastic,
ductwork, cabinets, furniture, and some
flowable materials like dirt and blasting
sand.

1.2 Review Scope

In accordance with 10 CFR Part 51,
this EA serves to (1) present information
and analysis for determining whether to
issue a Finding of No Significant Impact
(FONSI) or to prepare an Environmental
Impact Statement (EIS); (2) fulfill the
NRC's compliance with the National
Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) when
no EIS is necessary; and (3) facilitate
preparation of an EIS if one is necessary.
Should the NRC issue a FONSI, no EIS
would be prepared.

1.3 Proposed Action

The proposed action is to amend NRC
Materials License SNM-1107 to exempt
the licensee from the fissile material
package standards for shipment of
certain bulk materials containing low
concentrations of uranium-235
contamination and to impose limiting
conditions to ensure adequate controls
for nuclear criticality safety. These
materials would be exempt from fissile
material classification and the fissile
material package standards of 10 CFR
71.55 and 71.59, but subject to other
requirements of 10 CFR part 71 and the
further limiting conditions. A Safety
Evaluation Report (SER) has been
prepared by the NRC staff and contains
a discussion of the safety considerations
for approval of the amendment. The
SER will be included in the license
amendment when it is issued.

1.4 Need for Proposed Action

Westinghouse is currently
manufacturing nuclear reactor fuel at its
Columbia, SC facility. It is requesting
the exemption for transportation of low
level radioactive waste (LLRW)
generated during normal, routine
operations. The reason for this request
is to better utilize shipping containers
and transportation.

On February 10, 1997, the NRC issued
an emergency direct final rule (62 FR
5913) changing the fissile material
exemption specifications of 10 CFR part
71. The revised rule limits the fissile-

material mass in a consignment and
restricts the presence of select
moderators with very low neutron-
absorption properties (i.e., special
moderators). Under this rule,
specifically 10 CFR 71.53(a),
Westinghouse is limited to 400 grams of
U-235 per consignment. The imposition
of this 400-gram U-235 limit per
consignment increases the number of
shipments required to dispose of LLRW.

Westinghouse must make many small
LLRW shipments to comply with the
current SNM limits. With this
amendment, Westinghouse will be able
to utilize the entire volume of a strong-
tight, twenty-foot sea/land van; thus,
shipping, in one shipment, LLRW that
currently takes ten shipments.
Therefore, Westinghouse submitted this
license amendment request for a
specific exemption from the
requirements of 10 CFR 71.55 and 71.59
for specified SNM shipments with
greater than 400 grams U-235 per
consignment.

On April 15, 2002, the Westinghouse
facility in Hematite, MO (SNM-33),
received a fissile material exemption for
use in decommissioning the Hematite
facility (NRC, 2002). This action
requests the same exemption for the
Columbia, SC facility (SNM-1107).

1.5 Alternatives to the Proposed Action

No Action (i.e., deny the request).

2.0 Affected Environment

The affected environment for the
proposed action would be the
immediate vicinity of the vehicle used
to transport the material to a licensed
disposal facility.

The affected environment for no
action is the Westinghouse site. A full
description of the site and its
characteristics is given in the 1995
Environmental Assessment for the
Renewal of the NRC license for
Westinghouse (NRC, 1995). The
Westinghouse facility is located on a
site of about 1200 acres in Richland
County, South Carolina, approximately
8 miles southeast of the city of
Columbia.

3.0 Environmental Impacts of Proposed Action and Alternatives

3.1 Occupational and Public Health Proposed Action

The risk to human health from the
transportation of all radioactive material
in the U.S. was evaluated in the Final
Environmental Impact Statement on the
Transportation of Radioactive Material
by Air and Other Modes (NRC, 1977).
The principal radiological