

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
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 Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*
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[Docket Nos. 50-295 and 50-304]

Commonwealth Edison Company; Zion Nuclear Power Station, Units 1 and 2 Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of exemptions from certain requirements of 10 CFR part 50, Appendix J, Paragraph III, Leakage Testing Requirements, to Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-39 and DPR-48, issued to Commonwealth Edison Company (ComEd, the licensee), for operation of the Zion Nuclear Power Station, Units 1 and 2, located in Lake County, Illinois.

Environmental Assessment

Identification of the Proposed Action

This Environmental Assessment has been prepared to address potential environmental issues related to the licensee's application dated November 28, 1995, as supplemented on December 6, 1995. The proposed action would exempt the licensee from the requirements of 10 CFR part 50, Appendix J, Paragraph III.C and III.D, to the extent that exemptions would be granted due to system and penetration design.

The Need for the Proposed Action

The current Type C containment leak rate test requirements for Zion Nuclear Power Station, pursuant to 10 CFR part 50, Appendix J, Sections III.C and III.D.3 are that local leak rate periodic tests shall be performed during reactor shutdown for refueling, or other convenient intervals, but in no case at intervals greater than 2 years. ComEd has determined that the required tests have not been performed previously on the penetrations that form the basis for this exemption request. The exemptions are needed to allow the licensee to use an alternate testing method and thereby realize considerable cost savings, less radiological exposure and fewer unit thermal cycles with no adverse impact on public health and safety.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

The proposed exemptions would not increase the probability or consequences

of accidents previously analyzed and would not affect facility radiation levels or facility radiological effluents. The licensee has analyzed the possible leak paths, availability of the isolation valve seal water system, prior Type A leak test results as they are impacted by leaks from the types of valves in question and the probability of the sequences of events necessary for significant leakage to occur through the identified pathways. The licensee has provided an acceptable basis for concluding that in spite of the proposed exemptions the containment leak rates would still be maintained within acceptable limits.

Accordingly, the Commission has concluded that the exemptions do not result in a significant increase in the amounts of any effluents that may be released nor do they result in a significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. Therefore, there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed exemption.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed exemptions only involve Type C testing of the containment. They do not affect nonradiological plant effluents and have no other environmental impact. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed exemptions.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action

Since the Commission has concluded there is no measurable environmental impact associated with the proposed exemptions, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impact need not be evaluated. The principal alternative to this action would be to deny the request for exemptions. Such action would not reduce the environmental impacts of plant operations.

Alternative Use of Resources

This action does not involve the use of resources not previously considered in connection with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Final Environmental Statement dated December 1972, related to the operation of the Zion Nuclear Power Station, Units 1 and 2.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

In accordance with its stated policy, on November 28, 1995, the NRC staff consulted with the Illinois State Official, Mr. Frank Niziolek; Head, Reactor Safety Section; Division of Engineering; Illinois Department of

Nuclear Safety; regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comments.

Finding of No Significant Impact

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

For further details with respect to this action, see the licensee's letters dated November 28, 1995, as supplemented on December 6, 1995, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room located at the Waukegan Public Library, 128 N. County Street, Waukegan, Illinois 60085.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 7th day of December 1995.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Clyde Y. Shiraki,

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

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OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Public Information Collection Requirements, Request for Public Input; Personal Reference Inquiry for Administrative Law Judge Positions; Notice of Intent To Request OMB Approval for Continuation of Form OPM-192

AGENCY: U.S. Office of Personnel Management.

ACTION: Announcement of information collection; request for comments.

SUMMARY: As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (Office) invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on an information collection requirement concerning the Personal Reference Inquiry for Administrative Law Judge positions. This request for comment is being made pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13; 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Comments are requested by February 9, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to U.S. Office of Personnel Management,