previously evaluated already include dose contributions from MSIV leakage at the maximum leakage rate currently permitted by the TS. Appendix 2 of Attachment 3 of the January 14, 1994, submittal shows the previously calculated doses and the new calculated doses resulting from the proposed changes.

The staff concluded that the current exemption was acceptable based on: The method of MSIV testing (i.e., 22 psig test pressure when applied between MSIVs on a single steam line); a radiological analysis that assumed a 11.5 scfh MSIV leak rate, and the licensee's commitment that the MSIVs would be periodically tested to ensure the validity of the radiological analysis (i.e., verify that the MSIV leakage rate during testing is accounted for separately in the radiological analysis of the site. The proposed changes do not affect the bases for the current exemption. The modification and implementing TS change request: Will not alter the procedure method of MSIV testing (i.e., test pressure will remain at 22 psig when applied between MSIVs) and are based on the results of a radiological analysis where the proposed leakage rate and the resulting doses are still within regulatory limits. Also, the MSIVs will be periodically tested to assure the validity of the analysis (i.e., verify that the proposed MSIV leakage rate assumed in the radiological analysis is not exceeded per proposed TS 3.6.1.2.c), and the MSIV leakage will still be accounted for separately in the radiological analysis of the site.

For the reasons set forth above, the NRC staff concludes that there is reasonable assurance that: The current MSIV leak testing method (i.e., test pressure of 22 psig when applied between MSIV) is an acceptable method; the proposed alternate MSIV leakage pathway (main steam lines and condenser), and the calculated doses obtained by performing radiological analysis (calculated using an MSIV leakage rate limit of 100 scfh per MSIV not to exceed 200 scfh for all four main steam lines) are within the limits of 10 CFR Part 100 and GDC 19. The staff finds it acceptable to continue to exclude the measured MSIV leakage rate from the combined local rate, since the leakage is accounted for separately and continues to meet the underlying purpose of the rule. Therefore, the staff finds the requested exemption presented in the licensee's December 22, 1994, submittal acceptable.

III

Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.12, the Commission may, upon application by any interested person or upon its own initiative, grant exemptions from the requirements of 10 CFR Part 50 when (1) the exemptions are authorized by law, will not present an undue risk to public health and safety, and are consistent with the common defense and security; and (2) when special circumstances are present. Special circumstances are present whenever, according to 10 CFR 50.12(a)(2)(ii), "Application of the regulation in the particular circumstances would not serve the underlying purpose of the rule or is not necessary to achieve the underlying purpose of the rule * * *,'

The underlying purpose of the rule is to assure that the total valve leakage is within the limits of 10 CFR Part 100 and GDC–19. The licensee's analysis has demonstrated that an adequate margin can be maintained even if leakage from the MSIV is considered separately and subject to a leakage restriction of 100 scfh per MSIV, not to exceed a total of 200 scfh for all four main steam lines.

IV

Accordingly, the Commission has determined that, pursuant to 10 CFR Part 50.12, an exemption is authorized by law and will not present an undue risk to the public health and safety, and that there are special circumstances present, as specified in 10 CFR 50.12(a)(2). An exemption is hereby granted from the requirements of Sections II.H.4, III.C.2(a), and III.C.3 of Appendix J to 10 CFR Part 50. The exemption allows (1) leakage testing of the MSIVs after deletion of the LCS, using a test pressure of 22 psig applied between MSIVs and a leakage rate limit of 100 scfh per MSIV, not to exceed 200 scfh for all main steam lines, and (2) exclusion of the measured MSIV leakage rate from the combined local leak rate.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.32, the Commission has determined that the granting of this exemption will have no significant impact on the quality of the human environment (60 FR 7226).

The exemption is effective upon issuance and will be implemented prior to startup of Cycle 4 for LGS, Unit 2, and prior to startup of Cycle 7 for LGS, Unit 1.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 16th day of February 1995.

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[Docket No. 50-353]

Philadelphia Electric Company; Notice of Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating License

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (Commission) has issued Amendment No. 53 to Facility Operating License No. NPF–85 issued to Philadelphia Electric Company, which revised the Technical Specifications for operation of the Limerick Generating Station, Unit 2, located in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.

The amendment is effective as of the date of issuance. The amendment modified the Technical Specifications to permit an increase in the allowable leak rate for main steam isolation valves (MSIV), and delete the MSIV leakage control system (LCS). The main steam drain lines and the main condenser would be utilized as an alternate MSIV leakage treatment system.

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 set forth in the license amendment.

Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendments and Opportunity for Hearing in connection with this action was published in the **Federal Register** on September 26, 1994 (59 FR 49089). No request for a hearing or petition for leave to intervene was filed following this notice.

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 (60 FR 7226).

For further details with respect to the action see (1) the application for amendments dated January 14, 1994, and supplemented by letters dated August 1, October 25, December 13, December 22, 1994 (two submittals), and February 7, 1995 (2) Amendment No. 53 to License No. NPF-85, (3) the Commission's related Safety Evaluation, and (4) the Commission's 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