Radiological Environmental Assessment

As discussed previously, the licensee addressed potential radiological impacts attributable to operation at uprated power conditions in Sections 8, 9, and 11 of the initial Topical Report. The licensee concluded:

Adequate margin also exists for the proposed power uprate without exceeding regulatory limits for radiological effects. Current operating experience indicates that actual releases and waste disposal after power uprate will continue to be significantly less than the original estimates. For these reasons, power uprate is not expected to have an adverse effect on the routine operation "dose commitment" estimated by previous radiological environmental analyses, and no revision of these analyses is required.

The environmental assessment includes an estimate of potential exposure from all accident types combined. Regulatory Guide 1.49 requires calculation of accident doses at 102% of uprated thermal power, or 3510 MWt. Although direct comparison with the original analyses is not meaningful because of changes in methodology, a comparison on a consistent basis would show that the expected dose is approximately proportional to power. The original calculation was done at 3439 MWt. The estimated potential exposure from all accident types combined will therefore change by about the ratio of 3510/3439, or about 2 percent, which is not a significant change compared to the uncertainty in the probability estimates. No revision of these analyses is therefore required.

[Liquid radwaste throughput may increase up to 5% to a level which is within the processing capability of the system.] The activity levels of some radwaste streams containing coolant activation products may increase up to 10%, due to the 4.5% core flux increase and a 5% crud increase to the reactor which are assumed to occur.

Since the power uprate level of 3441 MWt is not significantly different from that analyzed previously, it is not anticipated there will be a significant increase in radiological effluents. Also, pre-power uprate technical specification limits will be maintained.

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed action and the licensee's evaluation of the potential radiological and non-radiological impacts. The Commission found that the FES (NUREG–0564) is valid for operation at the proposed uprated power conditions for SSES Unit 1 (the second uprated unit at the site). The Commission also concluded that the plant operating parameters impacted by the proposed uprate would remain within the bounding conditions on which the conclusions of the FES are based.

The change will not increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types of any effluents that may be released offsite, and there is no significant increase in the allowable individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that this proposed action would result in no significant radiological environmental impacts.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed action will not have a significant impact on the environs located outside the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20 or significantly affect nonradiological plant effluent or other environmental impacts. Therefore, the Commission concludes that this proposed action would result in no significant non-radiological environmental impacts.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action

Since the Commission has concluded there is no significant environmental impact associated with the proposed action, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impact need not be evaluated.

The principal alternative to the action would be to deny the request. Such action would not enhance the protection of the environment and would result in preventing the facility from having the flexibility to generate the approximately additional 50 megawatts that are obtainable from the existing plant.

Alternative Use of Resources

This action does not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the "Final Environmental Statement related to the operation of Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Units 1 and 2," dated June 1981.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

The Commission's staff reviewed the licensee's request and consulted with the Bureau of Radiation Protection, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources. The State Liaison Officer had no comment regarding the NRC's proposed action.

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 action.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated July 27, 1994, as supplemented September 16, October 27, and November 17, 1994, and letter dated February 7, 1994. These documents are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, The Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC and at the Osterhout Free Library, Reference Department, 71 South Franklin Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania 18701.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 9th day of January 1995.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. **Chester Poslusny**,

Acting Director, Project Directorate I–2,

Division of Reactor Projects—I/II, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation. [FR Doc. 95–920 Filed 1–12–95; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 7590–01–M

Regulatory Guide; Issuance, Availability

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued for public comment a proposed revision to a guide in its Regulatory Guide Series. This series has been developed to describe and make available to the public such information as methods acceptable to the NRC staff for implementing specific parts of the Commission's regulations, techniques used by the staff in evaluating specific problems or postulated accidents, and data needed by the staff in its review of applications for permits and licenses.

The draft guide, temporarily identified by its task number, DG–8012 (which should be mentioned in all correspondence concerning this draft guide), is a proposed Revision 1 to Regulatory Guide 8.29, "Instruction Concerning Risks from Occupational Radiation Exposure." This guide is being revised to provide guidance on the instructions and information that should be provided to workers by licensees about health risks from occupational radiation exposure.

This draft guide is being issued to involve the public in the early stages of the development of a regulatory position in this area. It has not received complete staff review and does not represent an official NRC staff position.

Public comments are being solicited on the draft guide. Comments should be accompanied by supporting data. Written comments may be submitted to the Rules Review and Directives Branch, Division of Freedom of Information and Publications Services, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555. Comments will be most helpful if received by March 15, 1995.

Comments may be submitted electronically, in either ASCII text or Wordperfect format (version 5.1 or later), by calling the NRC Electronic