licensing applications. Therefore, since the underlying purposes of 10 CFR 50.44, 10 CFR 50.46, and 10 CFR part 50, Appendix K, paragraph I.A.5 are achieved through the use of the M5 advanced alloy as a fuel rod cladding material, the special circumstances required by 10 CFR 50.12(a)(2)(ii) for the granting of exemptions to 10 CFR 50.44 and 10 CFR part 50, Appendix K, paragraph I.A.5 exist.

IV

The Commission has determined that, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.12, this exemption is authorized by law, will not endanger life or property or the common defense and security, and is otherwise in the public interest. Therefore, the Commission hereby grants FENOC an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 50.44, 10 CFR 50.46, and 10 CFR part 50, Appendix K.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.32, the Commission has determined that the granting of this exemption will have no significant impact on the environment (65 FR 794).

This exemption is effective upon issuance.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 15th day of March 2000.

John A. Zwolinski,

Director, Division of Licensing Project Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50–309]

Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company, et al., Maine Yankee Atomic Power Station; Notice of Receipt and Availability for Comment of License Termination Plan

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is in receipt of and is making available for public inspection and comment the License Termination Plan (LTP) for the Maine Yankee Atomic Power Station (MYAPS) located in Lincoln County, Maine.

Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company (MYAPC, or the licensee) announced permanent cessation of power operations of MYAPS on August 7, 1997. In accordance with NRC regulations, MYAPC submitted a Post-Shutdown Decommissioning Activities Report (PSDAR) for MYAPS to the NRC on August 27, 1997. The facility is undergoing active decontamination and dismantlement.

In accordance with 10 CFR 50.82(a)(9), all power reactor licensees must submit an application for termination of their license. The application for termination of license must be accompanied or preceded by an LTP to be submitted for NRC approval. If found acceptable by the NRC staff, the LTP is approved by license amendment, subject to such conditions and limitations as the NRC staff deems appropriate and necessary. MYAPC submitted the proposed LTP for MYAPS by application dated January 13, 2000. In accordance with 10 CFR 20.1405 and 10 CFR 50.82(a)(9)(iii), the NRC is providing notice to individuals in the vicinity of the site that the NRC is in receipt of the MYAPS LTP, and will accept comments from affected parties. In accordance with 10 CFR 50.82(a)(9)(iii), the NRC is also providing notice that the NRC staff will conduct a meeting to discuss the MYAPS LTP on Monday, May 15, 2000, at 7:00 p.m. at Wiscasset High School, Wiscasset, Maine.

The MYAPS LTP is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, The Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, N.W, Washington, DC 20037. An electronic version of the LTP may be viewed through the NRC ADAMS system, accession number ML003676560 or the Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company web site, www.maineyankee.com.

Comments regarding the MYAPS LTP may be submitted in writing and addressed to Mr. Michael Webb, Mail Stop O–11–D19, Project Directorate IV and Decommissioning, Division of Licensing Project Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555–0001, telephone (301) 415–1347 or e-mail mkw@nrc.gov.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 16th day of March 2000.

Michael T. Masnik,

Chief, Decommissioning Section, Project Directorate IV and Decommissioning, Division of Licensing Project Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 00–7242 Filed 3–22–00; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[DOCKET NO. 50–354]

Public Service Electric and Gas Company; Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating License No. NPF–57, Proposed No Significant Hazards Consideration Determination, and Opportunity for a Hearing

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. NPF–57 issued to Public Service Electric and Gas Company (the licensee) for operation of the Hope Creek Generating Station, located in Salem County, New Jersey.

The proposed amendment would change Technical Specification definition 1.7, CORE ALTERATION. The definition would be revised to be similar to the definition of CORE ALTERATION that is documented in NUREG–1433, Revision 1, ''Standard Technical Specifications, General Electric Plants, BWR/4.''

Before issuance of the proposed license amendment, the Commission will have made findings required by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act) and the Commission's regulations.

The Commission has made a proposed determination that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration. Under the Commission's regulations in 10 CFR 50.92, this means that operation of the facility in accordance with the proposed amendment would not (1) involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated; or (2) create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated; or (3) involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety. As required by 10 CFR 50.91(a), the licensee has provided its analysis of the issue of no significant hazards consideration, which is presented below:

1. The proposed changes do not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated.

The proposed TS change does not involve any physical changes to plant structures, systems or components (SSC) and there is no direct effect on plant operation. The proposed changes do not affect any accident initiators or precursors and do not change or alter the design assumptions for systems or components used to mitigate the