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Laura S. Nelson,

Advisory Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 00-27139 Filed 10-20-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7536-01-M

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Notice of Permits Issued Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Notice of permits issued under the Antarctic Conservation of 1978, Public Law 95-541.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish notice of permits issued under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978. This is the required notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Nadene G. Kennedy, Permit Office, Office of Polar Programs, Rm. 755, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On September 14, 2000, the National Science Foundation published a notice in the **Federal Register** of permit applications received. A permit was issued on October 13, 2000 to the following applicant: Maria Stenzel, Permit No. 2001-022.

Nadene G. Kennedy,

Permit Officer.

[FR Doc. 00-27161 Filed 10-20-00; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-298]

Nebraska Public Power District; Notice of Withdrawal of Application for Amendment to Facility Operating License

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has granted the request of Nebraska Public Power District (the licensee) to withdraw its June 15, 1999, application for proposed amendment to Facility Operating License No. DPR-46 for the Cooper Nuclear Station located in Nemaha County, Nebraska.

The proposed amendment would have revised the facility updated safety analysis report on the containment overpressure contribution to emergency core cooling system pump net positive suction head requirement post-loss-of-coolant accident.

The Commission had previously issued a Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment published in the **Federal Register** on July 14, 1999 (64 FR 38031). However, by letter dated June 14, 2000, the licensee withdrew the proposed change.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated June 15, 1999, and the licensee's letter dated June 14, 2000 (Accession No. ML003724841), which withdrew the application for license amendment. The above documents are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and accessible electronically through the Adams Public Electronic Reading Room link at the NRC Web site (<http://www.nrc.gov>).

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 10th day of October 2000.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Mohan C. Thadani,

Senior Project Manager, Section 1, Project Directorate IV & Decommissioning Division of Licensing Project Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 00-27177 Filed 10-20-00; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50-250 and 50-251]

Florida Power and Light Company, Turkey Point Plant, Units 3 and 4; Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is considering issuance of an exemption from Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR) Part 50, Appendix G, for Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-31 and DPR-41, issued to Florida Power and Light Company (FPL, the licensee), for operation of the Turkey Point Plant, Units 3 and 4, located in Dade County, Florida.

Environmental Assessment

Identification of the Proposed Action

The proposed exemption would allow FPL to apply the methodologies of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Code Cases N-588 and N-641 for the Turkey Point Plant reactor vessel circumferential welds.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application for exemption dated July 7, 2000, as supplemented October 4, 2000.

The Need for the Proposed Action

10 CFR part 50, Appendix G, requires that pressure-temperature (P/T) limits be established for reactor pressure vessels (RPVs) during normal operating and hydrostatic pressure or leak-testing conditions. Specifically, 10 CFR part 50, Appendix G states that "The appropriate requirements on both the pressure-temperature limits and the minimum permissible temperature must be met for all conditions." Appendix G further specifies that the requirements for these limits are the ASME Code, Section XI, Appendix G Limits.

To address provisions of amendments to the technical specification (TS) P/T limits, low temperature overpressure protection (LTOP) system setpoints and LTOP system effective temperature (T_{enable}), the licensee requested in its submittals that the staff exempt Turkey Point Units 3 and 4 from application of specific requirements of 10 CFR part 50, Section 50.60(a) and Appendix G, and substitute use of ASME Code Cases N-588 and N-641. Code Case N-588 permits the use of circumferentially-oriented flaws in circumferential welds for development of P/T limits. Code Case N-641 permits the use of an alternate reference fracture toughness (K_{IC} fracture toughness curve instead of K_{Ia} fracture toughness curve) for reactor vessel materials in determining the P/T limits, LTOP setpoints and T_{enable} . Since the K_{IC} fracture toughness curve shown in ASME Section XI, Appendix A, Figure A-2200-1, provides greater allowable fracture toughness than the corresponding K_{Ia} fracture toughness curve of ASME Section XI, Appendix G, Figure G-2210-1 (the K_{Ia} fracture toughness curve), using Code Case N-641 for establishing the P/T limits, LTOP setpoints and T_{enable} would be less conservative than the methodology currently endorsed by 10 CFR part 50, Appendix G and, therefore, an exemption to apply the Code Case would be required by 10 CFR 50.60. It should be noted that although the use of the K_{IC} fracture toughness curve in Code Case N-641 was recently incorporated into the Appendix G to Section XI of the ASME Code, an exemption is still needed because the proposed P/T limits, LTOP setpoints and T_{enable} (excluding Code Case N-641) are based on the 1996 edition (and 1997 addenda) of the ASME Code.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

The NRC has completed its evaluation of the proposed action and concludes that exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR part 50, Appendix G, to allow