

Register (65 FR 51344). Accordingly, based upon the environmental assessment, the Commission has determined that the granting of this exemption will not result in any significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

This exemption is effective upon issuance.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 25th day of August 2000.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

John A. Zwolinski,

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

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. SSD 99-27 and ASLBP No. 00-778-06-ML]

Graystar, Inc.; Notice of Reconstitution

Pursuant to the authority contained in 10 CFR 2.721 and 2.1207, the Special Assistant in the captioned 10 CFR part 2, Subpart L proceeding is hereby replaced by appointing Administrative Judge Thomas D. Murphy in place of Administrative Judge Frederick J. Shon. This reconstitution is a result of Judge Shon's retirement.

All correspondence, documents, and other material shall be filed with the Presiding Officer in accordance with 10 CFR 2.1203. The address of the new Special Assistant is: Administrative Judge Thomas D. Murphy, Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555-0001.

Issued at Rockville, Maryland, this 28th day of August 2000.

G. Paul Bollwerk, III,

Chief Administrative Judge, Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel.

[FR Doc. 00-22494 Filed 8-31-00; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50-277 and 50-278]

PECO Energy Company, et al. (Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station, Units 2 and 3); Exemption

I

PECO Energy Company (PECO or the licensee) holds, along with other co-licensees, Facility Operating Licenses Nos. DPR-44 and DPR-56, which authorize operation of the Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station, Units 2 and 3 (Peach Bottom or the facilities). The facilities consist of two boiling water reactors located at the licensee's site in York County, Pennsylvania. The licenses provide, among other things, that the licensee is subject to all rules, regulations, and orders of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or the Commission) now or hereafter in effect.

II

Section III.F of Appendix R to Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR), Part 50 requires that automatic fire detection systems (capable of operating with or without offsite power) be installed in all areas of the plant that contain or present an exposure fire hazard to safety-related or safe shutdown systems or components. By letter dated December 31, 1998, as supplemented on January 14 and April 14, 2000, the licensee requested an exemption from Section III.F of Appendix R regarding the provisions for an automatic fire detection capability in 8 fire zones in fire area 50 (the common area between both turbine buildings), 2 fire zones within fire area 6S (a portion of the Unit 2 reactor building), and 2 fire zones within fire area 13N (a portion of the Unit 3 reactor building). Specifically, these fire zones are (A) the Condenser Bays Fire Zones 50-78W and 50-78V; (B) Equipment hatchway and adjoining equipment rooms, Fire Zone 50-78B; (C) Main Turbine Lube Oil Storage Tank Rooms, Fire Zones 50-88 and 50-89; (D) Reactor Feedwater Turbine Area Corridors, Fire Zone 50-78A; (E) Steam Jet Air Ejector Room, Fire Zone 50-78EE; (F) Feedwater Heater Room, Fire Zone 50-99; and (G) Reactor Water Cleanup System

Equipment, Fire Zones 6S-42, 6S-5M, 13N-36, and 13N-13M.

The Commission, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.12(a)(1), may grant exemptions from the requirements of 10 CFR Part 50 that are authorized by law, will not present an undue risk to public health and safety, and are consistent with the common defense and security. The Commission, however, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.12(a)(2), will not consider granting an exemption unless special circumstances are present. Under 10 CFR 50.12(a)(2)(ii), special circumstances are present when 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 reasonably assure the capability to achieve and maintain safe shutdown in the event of a fire.

III

The staff has completed its evaluation of PECO's request for an exemption as follows.

Background

A. Fire Zone 50-78W in the Unit 2 Turbine Building consists of three rooms: the Condenser Pit (Room 22 on Elevation 102'-0"), the Moisture Separator Area (Room 138 on Elevation 116'-0"), and the Unit 2 Piping Area (Room 223 on Elevation 135'-0"). Fire Zone 50-78V in the Unit 3 Turbine Building consists of two rooms: the Moisture Separator Area (Room 181 on Elevation 116'-0") and the Unit 3 Pipe Area (Room 272 on Elevation 135'-0"). The primary fire hazards associated with these areas include turbine lubricating oil lines and cables.

Rooms 22, 138, 181, 223, and 272 are fully protected by an automatic wet pipe sprinkler system. This system is, in general, designed and installed in accordance with NFPA 13 and meets the sprinkler spray density for Ordinary Hazard Group 1 and Extra Hazard Group 1 classification. The combustible loading in the area, as described in the licensee's Fire Protection Program manual, is low consisting primarily of cable insulation.

The following table summarizes the post-fire safe shutdown functions in these rooms:

SUMMARY OF FIRE ZONE 50-78W

Room	Post-fire safe shutdown function
Unit 2 Condenser Pit (Room 22)	Unit 2 Condensate Storage Tank Leven Indication.
Unit 2 Moisture Separator Area (Room 138)	No post-fire shutdown equipment or components located in this room.