Record of Proceedings, Including Reasons for Decision

In the Matter of

Applicant

Hydro Quebec

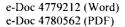
Subject

Application to Amend the Operating Licence for

the Gentilly-2 Nuclear Reactor

Hearing Date

June 5, 2015





RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Applicant: Hydro Quebec

Address: Gentilly-2, 4900 Bécancour Blvd., Bécancour, Quebec, G9H 3X3

Purpose: Application to amend the operating licence for the Gentilly-2

nuclear reactor

Application received: March 19, 2015

Date of hearing: June 5, 2015

Location: Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, 280 Slater Street, Ottawa,

Ontario

Member present: M. Binder, Chair

Licence: Amended

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1. Hydro-Québec applied to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission¹ (CNSC) for an amendment to the nuclear power reactor operating licence (PROL) for the Gentilly-2 nuclear reactor located in Bécancour, Quebec. The current power reactor operating licence, PROL 10.02/2016, will expire on June 30, 2016.
- 2. Hydro-Québec requested the replacement of the reference to regulatory document S-99, *Reporting Requirements for Operating Nuclear Power Plants*, with the new regulatory document REGDOC-3.1.1, *Reporting Requirements for Nuclear Power Plants*, published in May 2014. REGDOC-3.1.1 sets out the information that nuclear power plant licensees are required to report to the CNSC, as well as reporting deadlines, to support the conditions of their PROL.
- 3. Furthermore, to take into consideration the decrease in risk associated with the Gentilly-2 nuclear generating station, which is in a safe storage state and moving toward decommissioning, Hydro-Québec requested a relaxation of REGDOC-3.1.1's requirements.

<u>Issue</u>

- 4. In considering the application, the Commission was required to decide, pursuant to subsection 24(4) of the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act*² (NSCA):
 - a) whether Hydro-Québec is qualified to carry on the activities that the amended licence would authorize
 - b) whether, in carrying on those activities, Hydro-Québec would make adequate provision for the protection of the environment, the health and safety of persons, and the maintenance of national security and measures required to implement international obligations to which Canada has agreed

Hearing

5. Pursuant to section 22 of the NSCA, the President of the Commission established a Panel of the Commission to review the application. The Commission, in making its decision, considered written information presented for a hearing held on June 5 in Ottawa, Ontario. The Commission considered submissions from Hydro Quebec (CMD 15-H111.1) and CNSC staff (CMD 15-H111).

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¹ The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission is referred to as the "CNSC" when referring to the organization and its staff in general, and as the "Commission" when referring to the tribunal component.

² Statutes of Canada (S.C.) 1997, chapter (c.) 9.

2.0 DECISION

6. Based on its consideration of the matter, as described in more detail in the following sections of this Record of Proceedings, the Commission concludes that Hydro-Québec has met the conditions of subsection 24(4) of the NSCA. Accordingly,

the Commission, pursuant to section 24 of the NSCA, amends power reactor operating licence PROL 10.02/2016 issued to Hydro Quebec for the Gentilly-2 nuclear generating station located in Bécancour, Quebec. The amended licence, PROL 10.03/2016, remains valid until June 30, 2016.

- 7. In the licence, the Commission the conditions as recommended by CNSC staff in CMD 15-H111.
- 8. The Commission approves Hydro-Québec's application to relax REGDOC-3.1.1's requirements for certain periodic reports and safety performance indicators.

3.0 ISSUES AND COMMISSION FINDINGS

Qualifications and protection measures

- 9. Hydro-Québec requested an amendment to its PROL for the Gentilly-2 nuclear generating station to refer to the new REGDOC-3.1.1, which sets out the information that nuclear power plant licensees are required to report to the CNSC. This regulatory document replaced document S-99.
- 10. CNSC staff agree with this application, indicating that REGDOC-3.1.1 provides an update to the reporting requirements for nuclear power plants and associated deadlines, as well as an improved set of safety performance indicators. CNSC staff added that the requirements and guidelines set out in REGDOC-3.1.1 ensure that the CNSC receives the information necessary to appropriately monitor the operation of nuclear power plants, while eliminating unnecessary reports and duplication of information that must be submitted.
- 11. Hydro-Québec also requested a relaxation of REGDOC-3.1.1's requirements for certain periodic reports and safety performance indicators, to take into consideration the specific state of the Gentilly-2 facility, which is moving toward decommissioning, and its decrease in risk. Hydro-Québec requested an exemption from the requirement to submit certain periodic reports, a change in the submission frequency of other reports, and an exemption from the requirement to provide certain safety performance indicators. CNSC staff agreed with the application, considering the state of the power plant and the fact that it will simplify and streamline the regulatory framework for reports to be submitted to the CNSC.

12. CNSC staff noted that it will review the associated licence conditions handbook to reflect the amendments to the requirements for the Gentilly-2 operating licence.

4.0 CONCLUSION

- 13. The Commission has considered the information and submissions from CNSC staff and Hydro-Québec. The Commission concludes that the proposed amendments are of an administrative nature, and will not have a negative impact on the safety of operations at the Gentilly-2 nuclear generating station.
- 14. The Commission approves Hydro-Québec's application to relax REGDOC-3.1.1's requirements for certain periodic reports and safety performance indicators.

Michael Binder

Date

JUN 0 5 2015

Chair

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission