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Dated in Rockville, Maryland, this 2nd day of December 2002.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Leonard N. Olshan,

Project Manager, Section 1, Project Directorate II, Division of Licensing Project Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50-309-OM & 72-30-OM; ASLBP No. 03-806-01-OM]

Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company, Maine Yankee Atomic Power Station; Establishment of Atomic Safety and Licensing Board

Pursuant to delegation by the Commission dated December 29, 1972, published in the **Federal Register**, 37 FR 28710 (1972), and sections 2.105, 2.700, 2.702, 2.714, 2.714a, 2.717, 2.721, and 2.772(j) of the Commission's Regulations, all as amended, an Atomic Safety and Licensing Board is being established to preside over the following proceeding:

Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company, Maine Yankee Atomic Power Station.

This Board is being established pursuant to a November 15, 2002, petition to intervene and request for hearing submitted by the State of Maine. The petition was filed in response to an NRC staff "Order Modifying Licenses (Effective Immediately)" published in the **Federal Register** (67 FR 65150 (October 23, 2002)). The order requires licensees who currently store, or who have near-term plans to store, spent nuclear fuel in an independent spent fuel storage installation to maintain the security procedures specified in attachment 2 to the order.

The Board is comprised of the following administrative judges:

Ann M. Young, Chair, Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

Richard F. Cole, Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel, U.S. Nuclear

Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

Thomas D. Murphy, Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

All correspondence, documents, and other materials shall be filed with the administrative judges in accordance with 10 CFR 2.701.

Issued in Rockville, Maryland, this 3rd day of December, 2002.

G. Paul Bollwerk, III,

Chief Administrative Judge, Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel.

[FR Doc. 02-31003 Filed 12-6-02; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-261]

Carolina Power & Light Company; H. B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant, Unit No. 2; 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 55, section 55.59(c) for Facility Operating License No. DPR-23, issued to Carolina Power & Light Company (the licensee), for operation of the H. B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant, Unit No. 2 (HBRSEP2), located in Darlington County, South Carolina. As required by 10 CFR 51.21, the NRC is issuing this environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact.

Environmental Assessment

Identification of the Proposed Action

The proposed action would exempt the licensee on a one-time basis from the scheduler requirements of 10 CFR 55.59(c) for conducting the licensed operator requalification annual operating test and biennial comprehensive written examination at HBRSEP2.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application for exemption dated October 11, 2002.

The Need for the Proposed Action

The proposed action would extend the date for the licensee to complete the licensed operator requalification annual operating test and biennial comprehensive written examinations at HBRSEP2. The proposed action would extend the date for completing the examinations from December 31, 2002, to March 31, 2003, therefore extending the examination schedules by 3 months

over the schedules required by 10 CFR 55.59(c). This proposed action is needed to allow HBRSEP2 to complete an unusually heavy workload associated with a plant refueling outage and a power uprate, including conducting associated additional training and modifying the plant-specific simulator, in a timely and safe fashion without undue hardship to plant personnel and licensed plant operators.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

The NRC has completed its evaluation of the proposed action and concludes, as set forth below, that there are no significant environmental impacts associated with the extension of the operator requalification examinations from December 31, 2002, to March 31, 2003.

The proposed action will not significantly increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types of effluents that may be released off site, and there is no significant increase in occupational or public radiation exposure. Therefore, there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action. With regard to potential non-radiological impacts, the proposed action does not have a potential to affect any historic sites. It does not affect non-radiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, there are no significant non-radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Accordingly, the NRC concludes that there are no significant environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Environmental Impacts of the Alternatives to the Proposed Action

As an alternative to the proposed action, the staff considered denial of the proposed action (*i.e.*, the "no-action" alternative). Denial of the application would result in no change in current environmental impacts. The environmental impacts of the proposed action and the alternative action are similar.

Alternative Use of Resources

The action does not involve the use of any different resources than those previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement for HBRSEP2.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

On November 26, 2002, the staff consulted with the South Carolina State official, regarding the environmental