

grant such a request if it determines that the exemption will comply with the requirements of 10 CFR 50.12(a) or 52.63(b)(1) if the exemption includes any part of the design certification rule.

(b) An applicant for a combined license, or any amendment to a combined license, who has filed an application referencing an early site permit issued under this subpart may include in the application a request for a variance from one or more elements of the permit. In determining whether to grant the variance, the Commission shall apply the same technically relevant criteria as were applicable to the application for the original or renewed site permit. Issuance of the variance must be subject to litigation during the combined license proceeding in the same manner as other issues material to that proceeding.

**§ 52.97 Issuance of combined licenses.**

(a) The Commission shall issue a combined license for a nuclear power facility upon finding that the applicable requirements of 10 CFR 50.40, 50.42, 50.43, 50.47, and 50.50 have been met, and that there is reasonable assurance that the facility will be constructed and operated in conformity with the license, the provisions of the Atomic Energy Act, and the Commission's regulations.

(b)(1) The Commission shall identify within the combined license the inspections, tests, and analyses, including those applicable to emergency planning, that the licensee shall perform, and the acceptance criteria that, if met, are necessary and sufficient to provide reasonable assurance that the facility has been constructed and will be operated in conformity with the license, the provisions of the atomic Energy Act, and the Commission's rules and regulations.

(2)(i) Any modification to, addition to, or deletion from the terms of a combined construction and operating license, including any modification to, addition to, or deletion from the inspections, tests, analyses, or related acceptance criteria contained in the license is a proposed amendment to the license. There must be an opportunity for a hearing on these amendments.

(ii) The Commission may issue and make immediately effective any amendment to a combined construction and operating license upon a determination by the Commission that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration, notwithstanding the pendency before the Commission of a request for a hearing from any person. The amendment may be issued and made immediately effective in advance of the holding and completion of any required hearing. The amendment will be processed in accordance with the procedures specified in 10 CFR 50.91.

[54 FR 15386, Apr. 18, 1989, as amended at 57 FR 60978, Dec. 23, 1992]

**§ 52.99 Inspection during construction.**

After issuance of a combined license, the Commission shall ensure that the required inspections, tests, and analyses are performed and, prior to operation of the facility, shall find that the prescribed acceptance criteria are met. Holders of combined licenses shall comply with the provisions of 10 CFR 50.70 and 50.71. At appropriate intervals during construction, the NRC staff shall publish in the Federal Register notices of the successful completion of inspections, tests, and analyses.

[57 FR 60978, Dec. 23, 1992]

**§ 52.103 Operation under a combined license.**

(a) Not less than one hundred and eighty days before the date scheduled for initial loading of fuel into a plant by a licensee that has been issued a combined construction permit and operating license under subpart C of this part, the Commission shall publish in the FEDERAL REGISTER notice of intended operation. That notice shall provide that any person whose interest may be affected by operation of the plant, may within sixty days request the Commission to hold a hearing on whether the facility as constructed complies, or on completion will comply, with the acceptance criteria of the license.

(b) A request for hearing under paragraph (a) of this section shall show, *prima facie*, that—