

*Effective date:* As of the date of issuance to be implemented within 30 days.

*Amendment No.:* 236

*Facility Operating License No.* DPR-59: Amendment revised the Technical Specifications.

*Date of initial notice in Federal Register:* May 8, 1996 (61 FR 20854) The Commission's related evaluation of the amendment is contained in a Safety Evaluation dated October 30, 1996. No significant hazards consideration comments received: No

*Local Public Document Room location:* Reference and Documents Department, Penfield Library, State University of New York, Oswego, New York 13126.

Power Authority of the State of New York, Docket No. 50-333, James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant, Oswego County, New York

*Date of application for amendment:* May 30, 1996, as supplemented by letter dated October 11, 1996

*Brief description of amendment:* The amendment proposes to eliminate selected response time testing requirements for certain sensors and specified loop instrumentation.

*Date of issuance:* October 28, 1996

*Effective date:* As of the date of issuance to be implemented within 30 days.

*Amendment No.:* 235

*Facility Operating License No.* DPR-59: Amendment revised the Technical Specifications.

*Date of initial notice in Federal Register:* July 3, 1996 (61 FR 34896) The Commission's related evaluation of the amendment is contained in a Safety Evaluation dated October 28, 1996. No significant hazards consideration comments received: No

*Local Public Document Room location:* Reference and Documents Department, Penfield Library, State University of New York, Oswego, New York 13126.

Public Service Electric & Gas Company, Docket Nos. 50-272 and 50-311, Salem Nuclear Generating Station, Unit Nos. 1 and 2, Salem County, New Jersey Date of application for amendments: July 12, 1996, as supplemented September 12, 1996

*Brief description of amendments:* The amendments revise Technical Specification Table 3.3-3, "Engineered Safety Feature Actuation System Instrumentation," to clarify the setpoint for the interlock designated P-12.

*Date of issuance:* November 4, 1996

*Effective date:* Both units, as of date of issuance, to be implemented within 30 days.

*Amendment Nos.* 185 and 167  
*Facility Operating License Nos.* DPR-70 and DPR-75. The amendments revised the Technical Specifications.

*Date of initial notice in Federal Register:* July 23, 1996 (61 FR 38229) The supplemental letter provided clarifying information that did not change the initial proposed no significant hazards consideration determination nor the Federal Register notice. The Commission's related evaluation of the amendments is contained in a Safety Evaluation dated November 4, 1996. No significant hazards consideration comments received: No

*Local Public Document Room location:* Salem Free Public Library, 112 West Broadway, Salem, NJ 08079

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 13th day of November 1996.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Steven A. Varga,

Director, Division of Reactor Projects - I/  
II, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
[FR Doc. 96-29584 Filed 11-18-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-F

### **Draft Regulatory Guide; Issuance, Availability**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued for public comment a draft of a guide planned for its Regulatory Guide Series. This series has been developed to describe and make available to the public such information as methods acceptable to the NRC staff for implementing specific parts of the Commission's regulations, techniques used by the staff in evaluating specific problems or postulated accidents, and data needed by the staff in its review of applications for permits and licenses.

The draft guide, temporarily identified by its task number, DG-1052 (which should be mentioned in all correspondence concerning this draft guide), is titled "Time Response Design Criteria for Safety-Related Operator Actions." The guide will be in Division 1, "Power Reactors." This regulatory guide is being developed to provide methods acceptable to the NRC staff for developing and applying timing criteria for safety-related operator actions. This guide endorses the American National Standards Institute/American Nuclear Society standard ANSI/ANS-58.8-1994, "Time Response Design Criteria for Safety-Related Operator Actions."

This draft guide DG-1052 supersedes DG-1040, which was issued in June 1995 with the same title. DG-1052 has been developed as a result of comments received on DG-1040 and review by the

NRC's Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS). Based on the information presented in DG-1040, the ACRS, in its letter dated November 14, 1995, to the NRC Executive Director for Operations,<sup>1</sup> has raised the following concerns: (1) There is no technical basis for the estimates of minimum times for operator actions in ANSI/ANS-58.8-1994; (2) comparison of the recommended times with results from exercises on plant simulators does not demonstrate that these times are appropriately conservative; (3) endorsement of the standard is not the appropriate way to resolve Generic Safety Issue B-17; and (4) the standard does not address operator response times for advanced nuclear power plants.

The draft guide has not received complete staff review and does not represent an official NRC staff position.

Public comments are being solicited on Draft Regulatory Guide DG-1052 and on the ACRS concerns. Comments may be accompanied by additional relevant information or supporting data. Written comments may be submitted to the Rules Review and Directives Branch, Division of Freedom of Information and Publications Services, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555. Copies of comments received may be examined at the NRC Public Document Room, 2120 L Street NW., Washington, DC. Comments will be most helpful if received by January 24, 1997.

Although a time limit is given for comments on this draft guide, comments and suggestions in connection with items for inclusion in guides currently being developed or improvements in all published guides are encouraged at any time.

Comments may be submitted electronically, in either ASCII text or Wordperfect format (version 5.1 or later), by calling the NRC Electronic Bulletin Board on FedWorld. The bulletin board may be accessed using a personal computer, a modem, and one of the commonly available communications software packages, or directly via Internet.

If using a personal computer and modem, the NRC subsystem on FedWorld can be accessed directly by dialing the toll free number: 1-800-

<sup>1</sup> Copies of this letter are available for inspection or copying for a fee from the NRC Public Document Room at 2120 L Street NW., Washington, DC; the PDR's mailing address is Mail Stop LL-6, Washington, DC 20555; telephone (202) 634-3273; fax (202) 634-3343.

303-9672. Communication software parameters should be set as follows: parity to none, data bits to 8, and stop bits to 1 (N,8,1). Using ANSI or VT-100 terminal emulation, the NRC NUREGs and RegGuides for Comment subsystem can then be accessed by selecting the "Rules Menu" option from the "NRC Main Menu." For further information about options available for NRC at FedWorld, consult the "Help/Information Center" from the "NRC Main Menu." Users will find the "FedWorld Online User's Guides" particularly helpful. Many NRC subsystems and data bases also have a "Help/Information Center" option that is tailored to the particular subsystem.

The NRC subsystem on FedWorld can also be accessed by a direct dial phone number for the main FedWorld BBS, 703-321-3339, or by using Telnet via Internet, fedworld.gov. If using 703-321-3339 to contact FedWorld, the NRC subsystem will be accessed from the main FedWorld menu by selecting the "Regulatory, Government Administration and State Systems," then selecting "Regulatory Information Mall." At that point, a menu will be displayed that has an option "U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission" that will take you to the NRC Online main menu. The NRC Online area also can be accessed directly by typing "/go nrc" at a FedWorld command line. If you access NRC from FedWorld's main menu, you may return to FedWorld by selecting the "Return to FedWorld" option from the NRC Online Main Menu. However, if you access NRC at FedWorld by using NRC's toll-free number, you will have full access to all NRC systems but you will not have access to the main FedWorld system.

If you contact FedWorld using Telnet, you will see the NRC area and menus, including the Rules menu. Although you will be able to download documents and leave messages, you will not be able to write comments or upload files (comments). If you contact FedWorld using FTP, all files can be accessed and downloaded but uploads are not allowed; all you will see is a list of files without descriptions (normal Gopher look). An index file listing all files within a subdirectory, with descriptions, is included. There is a 15-minute time limit for FTP access.

Although FedWorld can be accessed through the World Wide Web, like FTP that mode only provides access for downloading files and does not display the NRC Rules menu.

For more information on NRC bulletin boards call Mr. Arthur Davis, Systems Integration and Development Branch, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission,

Washington, DC 20555, telephone (301) 415-5780; e-mail AXD3@nrc.gov. For more information on this draft regulatory guide, contact J.J. Kramer at the NRC, telephone (301) 415-5891; e-mail JJK1@nrc.gov.

Regulatory guides are available for inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 2120 L Street NW., Washington, DC. Requests for single copies of draft or final guides (which may be reproduced) or for placement on an automatic distribution list for single copies of future draft guides in specific divisions should be made in writing to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, Attention: Distribution and Mail Services Section; or by fax at (301) 415-2260. Telephone requests cannot be accommodated. Regulatory guides are not copyrighted, and Commission approval is not required to reproduce them.

(5 U.S.C. 552(a))

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 6th day of November 1996.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.  
M. Wayne Hodges,  
*Director, Division of Systems Technology,  
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research.*

[FR Doc. 96-29586 Filed 11-18-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

## RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

### 1997 Monthly Compensation Base and Other Determinations

**AGENCY:** Railroad Retirement Board.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to section 12(r)(3) of the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act (Act) (45 U.S.C. 362(r)(3)), the Board gives notice of the following:

1. The monthly compensation base under section 1(i) of the Act is \$890 for months in calendar year 1997;
2. The amount described in section 1(k) of the Act as "2.5 times the monthly compensation base" is \$2,225.00 for base year (calendar year) 1997;
3. The amount described in section 2(c) of the Act as "an amount that bears the same ratio to \$775 as the monthly compensation base for that year as computed under section 1(i) of this Act bears to \$600" is \$1,150 for months in calendar year 1997;
4. The amount described in section 3 of the Act as "2.5 times the monthly compensation base" is \$2,225.00 for base year (calendar year) 1997;
5. The amount described in section 4(a-2)(i)(A) of the Act as "2.5 times the monthly compensation base" is

\$2,225.00 with respect to disqualifications ending in calendar year 1997;

6. The maximum daily benefit rate under section 2(a)(3) of the Act is \$43 with respect to days of unemployment and days of sickness in registration periods beginning after June 30, 1997.

**DATES:** The determinations made in notices (1) through (5) are effective January 1, 1997. The determination made in notice (6) is effective for registration periods beginning after June 30, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** Secretary to the Board, Railroad Retirement Board, 844 Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611-2092.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Timothy H. Hogueisson, Bureau of the Actuary, Railroad Retirement Board, 844 Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611-2092, telephone (312) 751-4789.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The RRB is required by section 12(r)(3) of the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act (Act) (45 U.S.C. 362(r)(3)) as amended by Public Law 100-647, to publish by December 11, 1996, the computation of the calendar year 1997 monthly compensation base (section 1(i) of the Act) and amounts described in sections 1(k), 2(c), 3 and 4(a-2)(i)(A) of the Act which are related to changes in the monthly compensation base. Also, the RRB is required to publish, by June 11, 1997, the maximum daily benefit rate under section 2(a)(3) of the Act for days of unemployment and days of sickness in registration periods beginning after June 30, 1997.

### Monthly Compensation Base

For years after 1988, section 1(i) of the Act contains a formula for determining the monthly compensation base. Under the prescribed formula, the monthly compensation base increases by approximately two-thirds of the growth in average national wages. The monthly compensation base for months in calendar year 1997 shall be equal to the greater of (a) \$600 or (b) \$600  $[1 + \{(A - 37,800)/56,700\}]$ , where A equals the amount of the applicable base with respect to tier 1 taxes for 1997 under section 3231(e)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. Section 1(i) further provides that if the amount so determined is not a multiple of \$5, it shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of \$5.

The calendar year 1997 tier 1 tax base is \$65,400. Subtracting \$37,800 from \$65,400 produces \$27,600. Dividing \$27,600 by \$56,700 yields a ratio of 0.48677249. Adding one gives 1.48677249. Multiplying \$600 by the amount 1.48677249 produces the