

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed action and concludes that there is no significant environmental impact if the amendments are granted. No changes will be made to the design and licensing bases, or procedures of the two units at the McGuire Nuclear Station. Other than the name change, no other changes will be made to the facility operating licenses, including the Technical Specifications.

The change will not increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types of any effluents that may be released offsite, and there is no significant increase in the allowable individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed action does not affect nonradiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action

Since the Commission has concluded there is no measurable environmental impact associated with the proposed action, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impact need not be evaluated. As an alternative to the proposed action, the staff considered denial of the proposed action. 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

This action does not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement related to the McGuire Nuclear Station.

Agencies and Persons Contacted

In accordance with its stated policy, on August 1, 1997, the staff consulted with the North Carolina State official, Richard Frye of the Division of Protection, North Carolina Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources, regarding the environmental impact of the proposed amendments. The State official had no comments.

Finding of No Significant Impact

Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, the Commission concludes that the proposed amendments will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, the Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed amendments.

For further details with respect to the proposed action, see the licensee's request for the amendments dated June 12, 1997, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, The Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington DC, and at the local public document room located at the J. Murrey Atkins Library, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, 9201 University City Boulevard, Charlotte, North Carolina.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 8th day of August 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Ngoc B. Le,

Acting Director, Project Directorate II-2, Division of Reactor Projects—I/II, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 97-21680 Filed 8-14-97; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards; Meeting Notice

In accordance with the purposes of Sections 29 and 182b. of the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 2039, 2232b), the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards will hold a meeting on September 3-5, 1997, in Conference Room T-2B3, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland. The date of this meeting was previously published in the **Federal Register** on Thursday, January 23, 1997 (62 FR 3539).

Wednesday, September 3, 1997

8:30 a.m.-8:45 a.m.: Opening Remarks by the ACRS Chairman (Open)—

The ACRS Chairman will make opening remarks regarding conduct of the meeting and comment briefly regarding items of current interest. During this session, the Committee will discuss priorities for preparation of ACRS reports.

8:45 a.m.-9:45 a.m.: Staff Action Plan to Improve the Senior Management Meeting Process, SECY-97-072 (Open)—The Committee will hear presentations by and hold discussions with representatives of the NRC staff, as needed, regarding

the action plan to improve the Senior Management Meeting Process.

9:45 a.m.-10:45 a.m.: Draft Regulatory Guide DG-1069: Fire Protection Program for Permanently Shutdown and Decommissioning Nuclear Plants (Open)—The Committee will hear presentations by and hold discussions with representatives of the NRC staff regarding the Draft Regulatory Guide DG-1069 on the fire protection program for permanently shutdown and decommissioning nuclear plants.

11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.: Proposed Generic Letter and Regulatory Guide Associated with Steam Generator Integrity (Open)—The Committee will hear presentations by and hold discussions with representatives of the NRC staff regarding the proposed Generic Letter and Regulatory Guide associated with steam generator integrity.

1:30 p.m.-2:00 p.m.: Reporting Reliability and Availability Information for Risk-Significant Systems and Equipment (Open)—The Committee will hear presentations by and hold discussions with representatives of the NRC staff, as needed, regarding the voluntary approach proposed by the industry for reporting reliability and availability information for risk-significant systems and equipment.

2:00 p.m.-2:30 p.m.: NRC Programs for Risk-Based Analysis of Reactor Operating Experience and Special Studies (Open)—The Committee will hear presentations by and hold discussions with representatives of the NRC staff, as needed, regarding the NRC Programs for Risk-Based Analysis of Reactor Operating Experience as well as the results of several special studies performed by the staff, including those related to auxiliary feedwater, Westinghouse reactor protection systems, loss of offsite power, initiating events, reactor core injection cooling, high pressure core injection, and fire events.

2:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.: Site-Specific Safety Goals (Open)—The Committee will hear presentations by and hold discussions with an ACRS Senior Fellow, and representatives of the NRC staff, as needed, regarding the use of site-specific safety goals.

3:45 p.m.-4:15 p.m.: Use of Uncertainty Versus Point Values in the PRA-Related Decisionmaking Process (Open)—The Committee will hear a report by the Chairman of the

Probabilistic Risk Assessment Subcommittee regarding matters discussed at the August 28–29, 1997 Subcommittee meeting.
 4:15 p.m.–7:00 p.m.: *Preparation of ACRS Reports* (Open)—The Committee will discuss proposed ACRS reports on matters considered during this meeting.

Thursday, September 4, 1997

8:30 a.m.–8:35 a.m.: *Opening Remarks by the ACRS Chairman* (Open)—The ACRS Chairman will make opening remarks regarding conduct of the meeting.

8:35 a.m.–10:15 a.m.: *Meeting with the NRC Executive Director for Operations* (Open)—The Committee will meet with the NRC Executive Director for Operations regarding items of mutual interest, including the following:

- Human Performance Program Plan
- Research Program
- Oversight of DOE facilities/ Direction Setting Issue #2
- Development of risk-informed regulation
- Role of ACRS in resolving technical differences between NRC staff and industry

10:30 a.m.–11:00 a.m.: *BWR Pressure Vessel Shell Weld Inspections* (Open)—The Committee will hear a report by the Chairman of the Materials and Metallurgy Subcommittee regarding issues discussed/raised at the August 26, 1997 Subcommittee meeting associated with BWR pressure vessel shell weld inspections.

11:00 a.m.–11:15 a.m.: *Subcommittee Report* (Open)—The Committee will hear a report by the Chairman of the Thermal-Hydraulic Phenomena Subcommittee regarding the items discussed during the July 29–30, 1997 Subcommittee meeting.

11:15 a.m.–11:30 a.m.: *Subcommittee Report* (Open)—The Committee will hear a report by the Chairman of the Regulatory Policies and Practices Subcommittee regarding matters discussed during the August 27, 1997 Subcommittee meeting.

11:30 a.m.–12:00 Noon: *Future ACRS Activities* (Open)—The Committee will discuss the recommendations of the Planning and Procedures Subcommittee regarding items proposed for consideration by the full Committee during future meetings.

1:00 p.m.–2:45 p.m.: *Proposed Rule on Shutdown and Fuel Storage Pool Operations* (Open)—The Committee will hear presentations by and hold discussions with representatives of

the NRC staff regarding the proposed rule on shutdown and fuel storage pool operations.

3:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m.: *Preparation of ACRS Reports* (Open)—The Committee will discuss proposed ACRS reports on matters considered during this meeting.

Friday, September 5, 1997

8:30 a.m.–8:35 a.m.: *Opening Remarks by the ACRS Chairman* (Open)—The ACRS Chairman will make opening remarks regarding the conduct of the meeting.

8:35 a.m.–10:30 a.m.: *Improper Control Rod Movement During Shutdown at Zion Unit 1, and Nonconservative Operations During Isolation of Recirculation Pump Seal Leak at Clinton* (Open)—The Committee will hear presentations by and hold discussions with representatives of the NRC staff regarding improper control rod movement during shutdown at Zion Unit 1, nonconservative operations during isolation of recirculation pump seal leak at the Clinton Nuclear Power Plant, and human/organizational performance issues associated with these incidents.

10:45 a.m.–11:00 a.m.: *Reconciliation of ACRS Comments and Recommendations* (Open)—The Committee will discuss responses from the NRC Executive Director for Operations to comments and recommendations included in recent ACRS reports, including those on the Proposed Regulatory Approach associated with Steam Generator Integrity, Inclusion of a Containment Spray System in the AP600 design, and proposed Final Revisions to 10 CFR Part 26, Fitness-For-Duty Program Requirements.

11:00 a.m.–11:30 a.m.: *Report of the Planning and Procedures Subcommittee* (Open/Closed)—The Committee will hear a report of the Planning and Procedures Subcommittee on matters related to the conduct of ACRS business, qualifications of candidates nominated for appointment to the ACRS, and organizational and personnel matters relating to the ACRS.

[**Note:** A portion of this session may be closed to discuss organizational and personnel matters that relate solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of this Advisory Committee, and information the release of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.]

12:30 p.m.–3:30 p.m.: *Preparation of ACRS Reports* (Open)—The

Committee will complete its discussion of proposed ACRS reports on matters considered during this meeting.

3:45 p.m.–4:30 p.m.: *Strategic Planning* (Open)—The Committee will continue its discussion of items of significant importance to NRC, including rebaselining of the Committee activities for FY 1998.

4:30 p.m.–4:45 p.m.: *Miscellaneous* (Open)—The Committee will discuss matters related to the conduct of Committee activities and specific issues that were not completed during previous meetings, as time and availability of information permit.

Procedures for the conduct of and participation in ACRS meetings were published in the **Federal Register** on October 1, 1996 (61 FR 51310). In accordance with these procedures, oral or written statements may be presented by members of the public and representatives of the nuclear industry, electronic recordings will be permitted only during the open portions of the meeting, and questions may be asked only by members of the Committee, its consultants, and staff. Persons desiring to make oral statements should notify Mr. Sam Duraiswamy, Chief, Nuclear Reactors Branch, at least five days before the meeting, if possible, so that appropriate arrangements can be made to allow the necessary time during the meeting for such statements. Use of still, motion picture, and television cameras during this meeting may be limited to selected portions of the meeting as determined by the Chairman.

Information regarding the time to be set aside for this purpose may be obtained by contacting the Chief of the Nuclear Reactors Branch prior to the meeting. In view of the possibility that the schedule for ACRS meetings may be adjusted by the Chairman as necessary to facilitate the conduct of the meeting, persons planning to attend should check with the Chief of the Nuclear Reactors Branch if such rescheduling would result in major inconvenience.

In accordance with Subsection 10(d) P.L. 92–463, I have determined that it is necessary to close portions of this meeting noted above to discuss matters that relate solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of this Advisory Committee per 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(2), and to discuss information the release of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy per 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(6).

Further information regarding topics to be discussed, whether the meeting has been cancelled or rescheduled, the

Chairman's ruling on requests for the opportunity to present oral statements and the time allotted therefor, can be obtained by contacting Mr. Sam Duraiswamy, Chief, Nuclear Reactors Branch (telephone 301/415-7364), between 7:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. EDT.

ACRS meeting notices, meeting transcripts, and letter reports are now available on FedWorld from the "NRC MAIN MENU." The Direct Dial Access number to FedWorld is (800) 303-9672 or ftp.fedworld. These documents and the meeting agenda are also available for downloading or reviewing on the internet at <http://www.nrc.gov/ACRSACNW>.

Dated: August 11, 1997.

John C. Hoyle,

Acting Advisory Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 97-21681 Filed 8-14-97; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50-508 and 50-509]

Washington Nuclear Units 3 and 5 Closing of Local Public Document Room

Notice is hereby given that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is closing the local public document room (LPDR) for records pertaining to the Washington Public Power Supply System's Washington Nuclear Units 3 and 5 (WPPSS) located at the W.H. Abel Memorial Library, Montesano, Washington, effective August 15, 1997.

The W.H. Abel Memorial Library has served as the LPDR for WPPSS Units 3 and 5 for 23 years. In a letter dated May 28, 1997, the community librarian officially informed the NRC that they no longer wish to serve as the LPDR. NRC has made the decision to officially close the WPPSS Units 3 and 5 LPDR because none of the libraries in the vicinity of the Satsop, Washington site are interested in maintaining the document collection, no facility was ever constructed on the site, and there has been no demonstrated local public interest in the LPDR materials for a number of years. Therefore, effective August 15, 1997, the LPDR will be closed.

Persons now interested in information pertaining to this facility or any other NRC activity may contact the NRC Public Document Room by calling toll-free 1-800-397-4209 or writing to NRC Public Document Room, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 11th day of August, 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Russell A. Powell,

Chief, Freedom of Information/Local Public Document Room Branch, Office of Information Resources Management.

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PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION

Interest Assumption for Determining Variable-Rate Premium; Interest Assumptions for Multiemployer Plan Valuations Following Mass Withdrawal

AGENCY: Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

ACTION: Notice of interest rates and assumptions.

SUMMARY: This notice informs the public of the interest rates and assumptions to be used under certain Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation regulations. These rates and assumptions are published elsewhere (or are derivable from rates published elsewhere), but are collected and published in this notice for the convenience of the public. Interest rates are also published on the PBGC's home page (<http://www.pbgc.gov>).

DATES: The interest rate for determining the variable-rate premium under part 4006 applies to premium payment years beginning in August 1997. The interest assumptions for performing multiemployer plan valuations following mass withdrawal under part 4281 apply to valuation dates occurring in September 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Harold J. Ashner, Assistant General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, 1200 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20005, 202-326-4024 (202-326-4179 for TTY and TDD).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Variable-Rate Premiums

Section 4006(a)(3)(E)(iii)(II) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and § 4006.4(b)(1) of the PBGC's regulation on Premium Rates (29 CFR part 4006) prescribe use of an assumed interest rate in determining a single-employer plan's variable-rate premium. The rate is the "applicable percentage" (described in the statute and the regulation) of the annual yield on 30-year Treasury securities for the month preceding the beginning of the plan year for which

premiums are being paid (the "premium payment year"). The yield figure is reported in Federal Reserve Statistical Releases G.13 and H.15.

For plan years beginning before July 1, 1997, the applicable percentage of the 30-year Treasury yield was 80 percent. The Retirement Protection Act of 1994 (RPA) amended ERISA section 4006(a)(3)(E)(iii)(II) to provide that the applicable percentage is 85 percent for plan years beginning on or after July 1, 1997, through (at least) plan years beginning before January 1, 2000.

However, under section 774(c) of the RPA, the application of the amendment is deferred for certain regulated public utility (RPU) plans for as long as six months. The applicable percentage for RPU plans will therefore remain 80 percent for plan years beginning before January 1, 1998. (The rules governing the applicable percentages for "partial" RPU plans are described in § 4006.5(g) of the premium rates regulation.)

For plans for which the applicable percentage is 85 percent, the assumed interest rate to be used in determining variable-rate premiums for premium payment years beginning in August 1997 is 5.53 percent (*i.e.*, 85 percent of the 6.51 percent yield figure for July 1997).

The following table lists the assumed interest rates to be used in determining variable-rate premiums for premium payment years beginning between September 1996 and August 1997. The rates for July and August 1997 in the table reflect an applicable percentage of 85 percent and thus apply only to non-RPU plans. However, the rates for months before July 1997, which reflect an applicable percentage of 80 percent, apply to RPU (and "partial" RPU) plans as well as to non-RPU plans.

For premium payment years beginning in	The assumed interest rate is
September 1996	5.47
October 1996	5.62
November 1996	5.45
December 1996	5.18
January 1997	5.24
February 1997	5.46
March 1997	5.35
April 1997	5.54
May 1997	5.67
June 1997	5.55
July 1997	5.75
August 1997	5.53