

Agencies and Persons Consulted

In accordance with its stated policy, on March 30, 1999, the staff consulted with Texas State Official, Mr. Arthur C. Tate of the Texas Department of Health regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comments.

Finding of No Significant Impact

On the basis of the environmental assessment, the Commission concludes that the proposed action 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 action.

For further details with respect to the proposed action, see the licensee's letter dated March 18, 1999, 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 Wharton County Junior College, J.M. Hodges Learning Center, 911 Boling Highway, Wharton, Texas.

Dated at Rockville, Md., this 27th day of April 1999.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Robert A. Gramm,

Chief, Section 1, Project Directorate IV & Decommissioning, Division of Licensing Project Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 99-11025 Filed 4-30-99; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards Subcommittee Meeting on Thermal-Hydraulic Phenomena; Notice of Meeting

The ACRS Subcommittee on Thermal-Hydraulic Phenomena will hold a meeting on May 26, 1999, Room T-2B3, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

Portions of this meeting may be closed to public attendance to discuss Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) proprietary information pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(4).

The agenda for the subject meeting shall be as follows:

Wednesday, May 26, 1999—8:30 a.m. until the Conclusion of Business

The Subcommittee will review the: (1) Proposed resolution of Generic Safety Issue 23, "Reactor Coolant Pump Seal Failures," (2) proposed rule to revise Appendix K to 10 CFR 50.46 to allow

small, cost beneficial power uprates, and (3) status of the EPRI RETRAN-3D transient thermal-hydraulic code review and proposed ACRS Structured Discussion on development of code review guidelines. The purpose of this meeting is to gather information, analyze relevant issues and facts, and to formulate proposed positions and actions, as appropriate, for deliberation by the full Committee.

Oral statements may be presented by members of the public with the concurrence of the Subcommittee Chairman. Written statements will be accepted and made available to the Committee. Electronic recordings will be permitted only during those portions of the meeting that are open to the public, and questions may be asked only by members of the Subcommittee, its consultants, and staff. Persons desiring to make oral statements should notify the cognizant ACRS staff engineer named below five days prior to the meeting, if possible, so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

During the initial portion of the meeting, the Subcommittee, along with any of its consultants who may be present, may exchange preliminary views regarding matters to be considered during the balance of the meeting.

The Subcommittee will then hear presentations by and hold discussions with representatives of the NRC staff, and other interested persons regarding this review. Further information regarding topics to be discussed, whether the meeting has been canceled or rescheduled, the scheduling of sessions which are open to the public, and the Chairman's ruling on requests for the opportunity to present oral statements and the time allotted therefor, can be obtained by contacting the cognizant ACRS staff engineer, Mr. Paul A. Boehnert (telephone 301/415-8065) between 7:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. (EDT). Persons planning to attend this meeting are urged to contact the above named individual one or two working days prior to the meeting to be advised of any potential changes to the agenda, etc., that may have occurred.

Dated: April 27, 1999.

Richard P. Savio,

Associate Director for Technical Support, ACRS/ACNW.

[FR Doc. 99-11019 Filed 4-30-99; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards Subcommittee Meeting on Severe Accident Management; Meeting

The ACRS Subcommittee on Severe Accident Management will hold a meeting on May 27, 1999, Room T-2B3, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

The agenda for the subject meeting shall be as follows:

Thursday, May 27, 1999—8:30 a.m. until the conclusion of business.

The Subcommittee will review the application of the Southern California Edison Company for an exemption to the hydrogen control requirements for the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station. The purpose of this meeting is to gather information, analyze relevant issues and facts, and to formulate proposed positions and actions, as appropriate, for deliberation by the full Committee.

Oral statements may be presented by members of the public with the concurrence of the Subcommittee Chairman. Written statements will be accepted and made available to the Committee. Electronic recordings will be permitted only during those portions of the meeting that are open to the public, and questions may be asked only by members of the Subcommittee, its consultants, and staff. Persons desiring to make oral statements should notify the cognizant ACRS staff engineer named below five days prior to the meeting, if possible, so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

During the initial portion of the meeting, the Subcommittee, along with any of its consultants who may be present, may exchange preliminary views regarding matters to be considered during the balance of the meeting.

The Subcommittee will then hear presentations by and hold discussions with representatives of the Southern California Edison Company, the NRC staff, and other interested persons regarding this review. Further information regarding topics to be discussed, whether the meeting has been canceled or rescheduled, the scheduling of sessions which are open to the public, and the Chairman's ruling on requests for the opportunity to present oral statements and the time allotted therefor, can be obtained by contacting the cognizant ACRS staff engineer, Mr. Paul A. Boehnert (telephone 301/415-8065) between 7:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. (EDT). Persons planning to attend this meeting are

urged to contact the above named individual one or two working days prior to the meeting to be advised of any potential changes to the agenda, etc., that may have occurred.

Dated: April 27, 1999.

Richard P. Savio,

*Associate Director for Technical Support,
ACRS/ACNW.*

[FR Doc. 99-11020 Filed 4-30-99; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 35-27010]

Filings Under the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935, as Amended ("Act")

April 23, 1999.

Notice is hereby given that the following filing(s) has/have been made with the Commission pursuant to provisions of the Act and rules promulgated under the Act. All interested persons are referred to the application(s) and/or declaration(s) for complete statements of the proposed transaction(s) summarized below. The application(s) and/or declaration(s) and any amendments is/are available for public inspection through the Commission's Office of Public Reference.

Interested persons wishing to comment or request a hearing on the application(s) and/or declaration(s) should submit their views in writing by May 18, 1999, to the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, Washington, D.C. 20549-0609, and serve a copy on the relevant applicant(s) and/or declarant(s) at the address(es) specified below. Proof of service (by affidavit or, in case of an attorney at law, by certificate) should be filed with the request. Any request for hearing should identify specifically the issues of fact or law that are disputed. A person who so requests will be notified of any hearing, if ordered, and will receive a copy of any notice or order issued in the matter. After May 18, 1999, the application(s) and/or declaration(s), as filed or as amended, may be granted and/or permitted to become effective.

Columbia Energy Group, et al. (70-9127)

Columbia Energy Group ("Columbia"), 13880 Dulles Corner Lane, Herndon, Virginia 20171-4600, a registered holding company, and its nonutility subsidiary companies, Columbia Energy Group Service Corporation, Columbia LNG

Corporation, CLNG Corporation, Columbia Atlantic Trading Corporation, Columbia Energy Services Corporation, Columbia Energy Power Marketing Corporation, Columbia Energy Marketing Corporation, Energy.Com Corporation, Columbia Service Partners, Inc., Columbia Assurance Agency, Inc., Columbia Energy Group Capital Corporation, Columbia Deep Water Services Corporation, Columbia Electric Corporation, Columbia Electric Pedrick Limited Corporation, Columbia Electric Pedrick General Corporation, Columbia Electric Binghamton Limited Corporation, Columbia Electric Binghamton General Corporation, Columbia Electric Vineland Limited Corporation, Columbia Electric Vineland General Corporation, Columbia Electric Rumford Limited Corporation, Columbia Electric Limited Holdings Corporation, Columbia Electric Liberty Corporation, all located at 13880 Dulles Corner Lane, Herndon, Virginia 20171-4600; Columbia Energy Resources, Inc., Columbia Natural Resources, Inc., Alamco-Delaware, Inc., Hawg Hauling & Disposal, Inc., Clarksburg Gas, L.P., Phoenix-Alamco Ventures, L.L.C., Columbia Natural Resources Canada, Ltd. ("CNR Canada"), all located c/o 900 Pennsylvania Avenue, Charleston, West Virginia 25302; Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation, 12801 Fair Lakes Parkway, Fairfax, Virginia 22030-0146; Columbia Gulf Transmission Company, 2603 Augusta, Suite 125, Houston, Texas 77057; Columbia Network Services Corporation and CNS Microwave, Inc., both located at 1600 Dublin Road, Columbus, Ohio 43215-1082; Columbia Propane Corporation, 9200 Areboretum Parkway, Suite 140, Richmond, Virginia 23236; and Columbia Insurance Corporation, Ltd., Craig Appin House, 8 Wesley Street, Hamilton HM EX, Bermuda, have filed a post-effective amendment with this Commission under section 9(a) of the Act and rules 45 and 54 under the Act to an application-declaration filed under sections 6(a), 7, 9(a), 10 and 13(b) of the Act, and rule 54 under the Act.

By order dated January 23, 1998 (HCAR No. 26820), the Commission authorized Columbia to invest up to \$5 million to acquire oil and natural gas leasehold interests in properties located in southern Ontario, Canada from Paragon Petroleum Corporation, a Canadian corporation. These interests were acquired through CNR Canada, which is currently pursuing oil and gas exploration activities on the properties.

Columbia now seeks authority to expand its oil and gas exploration activities to other properties in Canada.

These activities would be conducted by one or more, direct or indirect, existing or to-be-formed, non-utility subsidiaries. In connection with the proposed expansion, Columbia also seeks authority to increase its investment in these activities from \$5 million to \$55 million.

Columbia plans to use the increased investment for three purposes. The first purpose is for development activities on previously acquired properties with proven reserves. The second purpose is for drilling and development of proven and probable undeveloped reserves. Third, Columbia plans to invest in the acquisition of additional acreage, or the drilling rights to additional acreage.

For the Commission by the Division of Investment Management, under delegated authority.

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-10987 Filed 4-30-99; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-41325 ; File No. SR-CBOE-98-54]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing of Proposed Rule Change by the Chicago Board Options Exchange, Inc. To Update and Reorganize Its Rules Relating to Designated Primary Market-Makers

April 22, 1999.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"),¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on December 22, 1998, the Chicago Board Options Exchange, Inc. ("CBOE" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the CBOE.³ On February 18, 1999, the Exchange submitted an amendment to the proposed rule filing.⁴ The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ As discussed below, CBOE filed a substantially similar proposal in 1998, which it subsequently withdrew. See note 5 below.

⁴ The amendment deleted a proposed change to CBOE Rule 8.7.07 because the proposed change amended language proposed by another pending CBOE rule filing that has not been approved by the Commission. Letter from Arthur B. Reinstein, Assistant General Counsel, CBOE is Kelly McCormick, Division of Market Regulation, SEC, dated February 11, 1999 ("Amendment No. 1").