

impacts are associated with the proposed action. Table 2 summarizes

the radiological environmental impacts of the proposed EPU.

TABLE 2.—SUMMARY OF RADIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF EPU AT DAEC

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Radiological Waste Stream Impacts: | |
| Gaseous Waste | An increase in release rate that is linearly proportional to the power increase would be expected. |
| Liquid Waste | No change in DAEC zero liquid release policy. |
| Solid Waste: | |
| Wet Waste | Backwashes would increase to create approximately 3 cubic meters of resin per year. |
| Dry Waste | No significant changes. |
| Irradiated Components | No significant changes. |
| Dose Impacts | May potentially increase radiation levels; dose would remain within permitted levels in-plant and offsite. |
| Accident Analysis Impacts | No significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident. |
| Fuel Cycle and Transportation | Increase in bundle average enrichment; impacts would remain within the conclusions of Table S-3 and Table S-4 of 10 CFR Part 51. |

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.

As stated previously, the estimated cost of adding this nuclear generating capacity is approximately half the cost projected for purchasing the power and one-third the cost of producing the power by constructing a new combined-cycle, natural-gas-fueled facility. Alliant concluded that increasing DAEC’s capacity would be the most economical option for increasing power supply. Furthermore, unlike fossil fuel plants, DAEC does not routinely emit sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, carbon dioxide, or other atmospheric pollutants that contribute to greenhouse gases or acid rain.

Alternative Use of Resources

This action does not involve the use of any resources different than those previously considered in the FES for DAEC, dated March 1973.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

In accordance with its stated policy, on August 23, 2001, the NRC staff consulted with the Iowa State official, Mr. D. McGhee of the Department of Public Health, regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comment.

Finding of No Significant Impact

On the basis of the environmental assessment, the NRC concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, the NRC 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 application dated November 16, 2000, as supplemented April 16 (2 letters), April 17, May 8 (2 letters), May 10, May 11 (2 letters), May 22, May 29, June 5, June 11, June 18, June 21, June 28, July 11, July 19, July 25, August 1 (2 letters), August 10, August 16, and August 21, 2001, and NMC’s “Supplement to DAEC Environmental Report,” submitted on September 22, 2000. Documents may be examined and/or copied for a fee at the NRC’s Public Document Room, at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland. Publicly available records will be accessible electronically from the ADAMS Public Library component on the NRC Web site, <http://www.nrc.gov> (the Electronic Reading Room). If you do not have access to ADAMS or if there are problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, contact the NRC Public Document Room Reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, or 301-415-2737, or by e-mail at pdr@nrc.gov.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 14th day of September 2001.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Brenda L. Mozafari,

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

[FR Doc. 01-23447 Filed 9-19-01; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Docket Nos. 50-413 AND 50-414

Duke Energy Corporation; Catawba Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2; Notice of Intent To Prepare An Environmental Impact Statement and Conduct Scoping Process

Duke Energy Corporation (Duke) has submitted an application for renewal of operating licenses NPF-35 and NPF-52 for up to an additional 20 years of operation at Catawba Nuclear Station (Catawba), Units 1 and 2. Catawba is located in York County, South Carolina. The application for renewal was submitted by letter dated June 13, 2001, pursuant to 10 CFR Part 54. A notice of receipt of application, including the environmental report (ER), was published in the **Federal Register** on July 16, 2001 (66 FR 37072). A notice of acceptance for docketing of the application for renewal of the facility operating license was published in the **Federal Register** on August 15, 2001 (66 FR 42893). The purpose of this notice is to inform the public that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will be preparing an environmental impact statement in support of the review of the license renewal application and to provide the public an opportunity to participate in the environmental scoping process as defined in 10 CFR 51.29.

In accordance with 10 CFR 54.23 and 10 CFR 51.53(c), Duke submitted the ER as part of the application. The ER was prepared pursuant to 10 CFR Part 51 and is available for public inspection at the NRC Public Document Room located at 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC’s document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible at <http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/ADAMS/>

index.html, (NRC's Public Electronic Reading Room). In addition, the York County Library, located at 138 Black Street, Rock Hill, South Carolina, has agreed to make the ER available for public inspection.

This notice advises the public that the NRC intends to gather the information necessary to prepare a plant-specific supplement to the Commission's "Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants," (NUREG-1437) in support of the review of the application for renewal of the Catawba operating licenses for up to an additional 20 years. Possible alternatives to the proposed action (license renewal) include no action and reasonable alternative energy sources. 10 CFR 51.95 requires that the NRC prepare a supplement to the GEIS in connection with the renewal of an operating license. This notice is being published in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the NRC's regulations found in 10 CFR Part 51.

The NRC will first conduct a scoping process for the supplement to the GEIS and, as soon as practicable thereafter, will prepare a draft supplement to the GEIS for public comment. Participation in this scoping process by members of the public and local, State, and Federal government agencies is encouraged. The scoping process for the supplement to the GEIS will be used to accomplish the following:

a. Define the proposed action which is to be the subject of the supplement to the GEIS.

b. Determine the scope of the supplement to the GEIS and identify the significant issues to be analyzed in depth.

c. Identify and eliminate from detailed study those issues that are peripheral or that are not significant.

d. Identify any environmental assessments and other environmental impact statements (EISs) that are being or will be prepared that are related to but are not part of the scope of the supplement to the GEIS being considered.

e. Identify other environmental review and consultation requirements related to the proposed action.

f. Indicate the relationship between the timing of the preparation of environmental analyses and the Commission's tentative planning and decision-making schedule.

g. Identify any cooperating agencies and, as appropriate, allocate assignments for preparation and schedules for completing the supplement to the GEIS to the NRC and any cooperating agencies.

h. Describe how the supplement to the GEIS will be prepared, including any contractor assistance to be used.

The NRC invites the following entities to participate in the scoping process:

a. The applicant, Duke Energy Corporation.

b. Any Federal agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to any environmental impact involved, or that is authorized to develop and enforce relevant environmental standards.

c. Affected State and local government agencies, including those authorized to develop and enforce relevant environmental standards.

d. Any affected Indian tribe.

e. Any person who requests or has requested an opportunity to participate in the scoping process.

f. Any person who intends to petition for leave to intervene.

Participation in the scoping process for the supplement to the GEIS does not entitle participants to become parties to the proceeding to which the supplement to the GEIS relates. Notice of opportunity for a hearing regarding the renewal application was the subject of the aforementioned **Federal Register** notice of acceptance for docketing. Matters related to participation in any hearing are outside the scope of matters to be discussed at this public meeting.

In accordance with 10 CFR 51.26, the scoping process for an EIS may include a public scoping meeting to help identify significant issues related to a proposed activity and to determine the scope of issues to be addressed in an EIS. The NRC has decided to hold public meetings for the Catawba license renewal supplement to the GEIS. The scoping meetings will be held in the Council Chamber at the City Hall, located at 155 Johnston Street, Rock Hill, South Carolina, on Tuesday, October 23, 2001. There will be two sessions to accommodate interested parties. The first session will convene at 1:30 p.m. and will continue until 4:30 p.m. The second session will convene at 7:00 p.m. with a repeat of the overview portions of the meeting and will continue until 10:00 p.m. Both meetings will be transcribed and will include (1) an overview by the NRC staff of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) environmental review process, the proposed scope of the supplement to the GEIS, and the proposed review schedule; (2) an overview by Duke of the proposed action, Catawba license renewal, and the environmental impacts as outlined in the ER; and (3) the opportunity for interested Government agencies, organizations, and individuals to submit comments or suggestions on

the environmental issues or the proposed scope of the supplement to the GEIS. Additionally, the NRC staff will host informal discussions one hour prior to the start of each session at the Rock Hill City Hall. No scoping comments will be accepted during the informal discussions. To be considered, comments must be provided either at the transcribed public meetings or in writing, as discussed below. Persons may register to attend or present oral comments at the meeting on the NEPA scoping process by contacting Mr. James H. Wilson by telephone at 1 (800) 368-5642, extension 1108, or by Internet to the NRC at jhw1@nrc.gov no later than October 18, 2001. Members of the public may also register to speak at the meeting within 15 minutes of the start of each session. Individual oral comments may be limited by the time available, depending on the number of persons who register. Members of the public who have not registered may also have an opportunity to speak, if time permits. Public comments will be considered in the scoping process for the supplement to the GEIS. If special equipment or accommodations are needed to attend or present information at the public meeting, the need should be brought to Mr. Wilson's attention no later than October 18, 2001, so that the NRC staff can determine whether the request can be accommodated.

Members of the public may send written comments on the environmental scoping process for the supplement to the GEIS to: Chief, Rules and Directives Branch, Division of Administrative Services, Office of Administration, Mailstop T-6 D 59, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

Comments may be hand-delivered to the NRC at 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland, between 7:45 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. on Federal workdays. To be considered in the scoping process, written comments should be postmarked by November 22, 2001. Electronic comments may be sent by the Internet to the NRC at CatawbaEIS@nrc.gov. Electronic submissions should be sent no later than November 22, 2001, to be considered in the scoping process. Comments will be available electronically and accessible through the NRC's Public Electronic Reading Room (PERR) link <http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/ADAMS/index.html> at the NRC Homepage.

At the conclusion of the scoping process, the NRC will prepare a concise summary of the determination and conclusions reached, including the significant issues identified, and will

send a copy of the summary to each participant in the scoping process. The summary will also be available for inspection through the PERR link. The staff will then prepare and issue for comment the draft supplement to the GEIS, which will be the subject of separate notices and a separate public meeting. Copies will be available for public inspection at the above-mentioned addresses, and one copy per request will be provided free of charge. After receipt and consideration of the comments, the NRC will prepare a final supplement to the GEIS, which will also be available for public inspection.

Information about the proposed action, the supplement to the GEIS, and the scoping process may be obtained from Mr. Wilson at the aforementioned telephone number or e-mail address.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 13th day of September 2001.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Cynthia A. Carpenter,

Chief, Risk Informed Initiatives, Environmental, Decommissioning, and Rulemaking Branch, Division of Regulatory Improvements Program, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 01-23446 Filed 9-19-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

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 October 4-6, 2001, in Conference Room T-2B3, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland. The date of this meeting was previously published in the **Federal Register** on Friday, November 17, 2000 (65 FR 69578).

Thursday, October 4, 2001

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.-10:15 A.M.: Duane Arnold Core Power Uprate (Open/Closed)—The Committee will hear presentations by and hold discussions with representatives of the NRC staff, the Nuclear Management Company, Limited Liability Corporation (LLC), and General Electric Nuclear Energy regarding the license amendment request to increase the core thermal power level for the Duane Arnold Energy Center and the

associated staff's Safety Evaluation Report (SER). [NOTE: A portion of this session may be closed to discuss General Electric Nuclear Energy proprietary information applicable to this matter.]

10:35 A.M.-12:30 P.M.: Readiness Assessment for Future Plant Designs and the Staff Proposal Regarding Exelon's Regulatory Licensing Approach for the Pebble Bed Modular Reactor (Open)—The Committee will hear presentations by and hold discussions with representatives of the NRC staff regarding the staff's readiness assessment for future plant designs and the staff proposal regarding Exelon's regulatory licensing approach for the Pebble Bed Modular Reactor.

1:30 P.M.-2:30 P.M.: Action Plan to Address ACRS Comments and Recommendations Associated with the Differing Professional Opinion (DPO) on Steam Generator Tube Integrity (Open)—The Committee will hear presentations by and hold discussions with representatives of the NRC staff regarding the staff's action plan to address the ACRS comments and recommendations, which are included in NUREG-1740, "Voltage-Based Alternative Repair Criteria," associated with the DPO on steam generator tube integrity.

2:45 P.M.-3:45 P.M.: Proposed Resolution of Generic Safety Issue-173A, "Spent Fuel Storage Pool for Operating Facilities" (Open)—The Committee will hear presentations by and hold discussions with representatives of the NRC staff regarding the proposed resolution of Generic Safety Issue-173A and the response to ACRS comments and recommendations included in the June 20, 2000 ACRS report on this matter.

4:00 P.M.-7:00 P.M.: Discussion of Proposed ACRS Reports (Open)—The Committee will discuss proposed ACRS reports on matters considered during this meeting as well as proposed reports on Reactor Oversight Process, EPRI Report on Resolution of Generic Letter 96-06 Waterhammer Issues, and Response to the August 8, 2001 EDO response to the June 19, 2001 ACRS letter on Risk-Based Performance Indicators.

Friday, October 5, 2001

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.: Interim Review of the License Renewal Application for the Turkey Point Nuclear Power Plant and Westinghouse Topical Reports

Related to License Renewal (Open)—The Committee will hear presentations by and hold discussions with representatives of the NRC staff and the Florida Power and Light Company regarding the license renewal application for the Turkey Point Nuclear Power Plant Units 3 and 4, Westinghouse Topical Reports related to license renewal, and the associated staff's Safety Evaluation Reports.

10:50 A.M.-11:20 A.M.: Subcommittee Report (Open)—Report by the Chairman of the ACRS Subcommittee on Materials and Metallurgy regarding the results of the September 26, 2001 meeting during which several matters associated with steam generator tube integrity issues, including revised Steam Generator Action Plan were discussed.

11:20 A.M.-12:00 Noon: Safety Culture and Risk-Informing General Design Criteria (Open)—The Committee will hear a presentation by and hold discussions with Mr. J. N. Sorensen, ACRS Senior Fellow, regarding his draft reports on safety culture and on risk-informing General Design Criteria of Appendix A to 10 CFR Part 50.

1:00 P.M.-1:45 P.M.: Future ACRS Activities/Report of the Planning and Procedures Subcommittee (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. Also, it will hear a report of the Planning and Procedures Subcommittee on matters related to the conduct of ACRS business, and organizational and personnel matters relating to the ACRS.

1:45 P.M.-2:00 P.M.: Reconciliation of ACRS Comments and Recommendations (Open)—The Committee will discuss the responses from the NRC Executive Director for Operations (EDO) to comments and recommendations included in recent ACRS reports and letters. The EDO responses are expected to be made available to the Committee prior to the meeting.

2:15 P.M.-3:15 P.M.: Preparation for Meeting with the NRC Commissioners (Open)—The Committee will discuss topics for meeting with the NRC Commissioners scheduled for December 5, 2001.

3:15 P.M.-7:00 P.M.: Discussion of Proposed ACRS Reports (Open)—The Committee will discuss proposed ACRS reports.

Saturday, October 6, 2001

8:30 A.M.-2:30 P.M.: Discussion of Proposed ACRS Reports (Open)—The Committee will continue its discussion of proposed ACRS reports.