

Environmental Assessment*Identification of the Proposed Action*

The proposed action would allow for a one-time scheduler exemption from the containment local leak rate testing requirements of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulation* (10 CFR) part 50, Appendix J, Option A, Sections III.D.2.(a) and III.D.3. Appendix J requires these tests to be performed at every refueling outage with the interval not to exceed 2 years. The temporary scheduler exemption would extend the interval for Type B and Type C local leak rate testing (LLRT) of containment penetrations beyond the 2-year limit of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix J. Instead of performing the tests within the 2-year interval, NNECO would perform the tests prior to containment integrity being required for startup from the current refueling outage.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application for exemption dated October 16, 1997.

The Need for the Proposed Action

The proposed action is needed to postpone testing to maximize the use of limited resources during the current outage to allow for improving the Millstone Unit 1 Appendix J program. The postponement would also allow NNECO to avoid any additional radiation exposure and expense in testing a number of penetrations and valves more than once during the current refueling outage.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

The proposed exemption would postpone the next Type B and Type C tests until prior to restart from the current refueling outage (Refueling Outage Cycle 15). The NRC staff has reviewed the proposed exemption and concluded that the Type B and Type C tests are not required to ensure that offsite doses will be acceptable. This conclusion is based on the licensee's facility remaining shut down until after the Type B and Type C tests are performed. As long as Millstone Unit 1 remains shut down, containment integrity is not required and, therefore, testing for containment integrity is not required.

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 involve features located entirely within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. It 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 for the Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit 1.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

In accordance with its stated policy, on October 30, 1997, the staff consulted with the Connecticut State official, Kevin Scott of the Department of Environmental Protection, Radiation Control Section, regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comments.

Finding of No Significant Impact

Based upon 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 October 16, 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 Learning Resources Center, Three Rivers Community-Technical College, 574 New London Turnpike, Norwich, Connecticut, and at the Waterford

Library, ATTN: Vince Juliano, 49 Rope Ferry Road, Waterford, Connecticut.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 25th day of November 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Phillip F. McKee,

Deputy Director for Licensing, Special Projects Office, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 97-31519 Filed 12-1-97; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**Sunshine Act Meeting**

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

DATE: Weeks of December 1, 8, 15, and December 22, 1997.

PLACE: Commissioners' Conference Room, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

STATUS: Public and Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:*Week of December 1*

There are no meetings the week of December 1.

Week of December 8—Tentative

Thursday, December 11

2:00 p.m.—Briefing on Investigative Matters (Closed—Ex. 5 & 7)

3:00 p.m.—Affirmation Session (Public Meeting) (if needed)

Friday, December 12

9:00 a.m.—Meeting with Northeast Nuclear on Millstone (Public Meeting) (Contact: Bill Travers, 301-415-1200)

Week of December 15—Tentative

Wednesday, December 17

2:00 p.m.—Briefing on Integration and Evaluation of Results from Recent Lessons-Learned Reviews (including 50.59 Process Improvements) (Public Meeting) (Contact: Eileen McKenna, 301-415-2189)

3:30 p.m.—Affirmation Session (Public Meeting) (if needed)

Thursday, December 18

10:00 a.m.—Meeting with Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW) (Public Meeting) (Contact: John Larkins, 301-415-7360)

Week of December 22—Tentative

There are no meetings the week of December 22.

* The schedule for Commission meetings is subject to change on short

notice. To verify the status of meetings call (recording)—(301) 415-1292. Contact person for more information: Bill Hill (301) 415-1661.

The NRC Commission Meeting Schedule can be found on the Internet at <http://www.nrc.gov/SECY/smj/schedule.htm>

This notice is distributed by mail to several hundred subscribers: if you no longer wish to receive it, or would like to be added to it, please contact the Office of the Secretary, Attn: Operations Branch, Washington, D.C. 20555 (301-415-1661).

In addition, distribution of this meeting notice over the Internet system is available. If you are interested in receiving this Commission meeting schedule electronically, please send an electronic message to wmm@nrc.gov or dkw@nrc.gov.

Dated: November 26, 1997.

William M. Hill, Jr.,

Secy, Tracking Officer, Office of the Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-31729 Filed 11-28-97; 2:48 pm]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Draft Regulatory Guide; Extension of Comment Period

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission issued Draft Regulatory Guide DG-1070, "Sampling Plans Used for Dedicating Simple Metallic Commercial Grade Items for Use in Nuclear Power Plants," for public comment in September 1997 (see 62 FR 52166). This draft guide is being developed to describe methods acceptable to the NRC staff for complying with the NRC's regulations with regard to quality assurance requirements when using a sampling plan for dedicating simple metallic commercial grade items for unrestricted use in nuclear power plants.

The Nuclear Energy Institute has requested a 60-day extension of the comment period. The NRC hereby grants NEI's request and extends the comment period from December 1, 1997, to January 30, 1998.

Written comments may be submitted to the Rules and Directives Branch, 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 may also be submitted via the NRC's interactive rulemaking website through the NRC home page

(<http://www.nrc.gov>). This site provides the availability to upload comments as files (any format), if your web browser supports that function. For information about the interactive rulemaking website, contact Ms. Carol Gallagher, (301) 415-5905; e-mail CAG@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 should be made in writing to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, Attention: Printing, Graphics and Distribution Branch; or by fax at (301) 415-5272. 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 25th day of November 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

John W. Craig,

Deputy Director, Division of Engineering Technology, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research.

[FR Doc. 97-31516 Filed 12-1-97; 8:45 am]

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OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Federal Prevailing Rate Advisory Committee Open Committee Meetings

According to the provisions of section 10 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), notice is hereby given that meetings of the Federal Prevailing Rate Advisory Committee will be held on:

Thursday, January 15, 1998
Thursday, January 29, 1998
Thursday, February 12, 1998
Thursday, February 26, 1998
Thursday, March 12, 1998
Thursday, March 26, 1998

The meetings will start at 10:00 a.m. and will be held in Room 5A06A, Office of Personnel Management Building, 1900 E Street, NW., Washington, DC.

The Federal Prevailing Rate Advisory Committee is composed of a Chair, five representatives from labor unions holding exclusive bargaining rights for Federal blue-collar employees, and five representatives from Federal agencies. Entitlement to membership on the Committee is provided for in 5 U.S.C. 5347.

The Committee's primary responsibility is to review the Prevailing Rate System and other matters pertinent to establishing prevailing rates under

subchapter IV, chapter 53, 5 U.S.C., as amended, and from time to time advise the Office of Personnel Management.

These scheduled meetings will start in open session with both labor and management representatives attending. During the meetings either the labor members or the management members may caucus separately with the Chair to devise strategy and formulate positions. Premature disclosure of the matters discussed in these caucuses would unacceptably impair the ability of the Committee to reach a consensus on the matters being considered and would disrupt substantially the disposition of its business. Therefore, these caucuses will be closed to the public because of a determination made by the Director of the Office of Personnel Management under the provisions of section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463) and 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(9)(B). These caucuses may, depending on the issues involved, constitute a substantial portion of a meeting.

Annually, the Chair compiles a report of pay issues discussed and concluded recommendations. These reports are available to the public, upon written request to the Committee's Secretary.

The public is invited to submit material in writing to the Chair on Federal Wage System pay matters felt to be deserving of the Committee's attention. Additional information on this meeting may be obtained by contacting the Committee's Secretary, Office of Personnel Management, Federal Prevailing Rate Advisory Committee, Room 5559, 1900 E Street, NW., Washington, DC 20415 (202) 606-1500.

Dated: November 21, 1997.

Phyllis G. Heuerman,

Chair, Federal Prevailing Rate Advisory Committee.

[FR Doc. 97-31538 Filed 12-1-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6325-01-P

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Declaration of Disaster #2990]

California

Yuba County and the contiguous counties of Butte, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Sierra, and Sutter in the State of California constitute a disaster area as a result of damages caused by a severe fire which occurred on September 27-28, 1997. Applications for loans for physical damage as a result of this disaster may be filed until the close of business on January 20, 1998 and for economic injury until the close of