

Cyanamid Agricultural Research Division (Cyanamid) of Princeton, New Jersey holds a license issued by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for performing research and development using a variety of radioisotopes in a variety of chemical forms for plant and animal studies. Cyanamid has requested authorization to test substances labeled with C-14 by applying such substances to crops grown on a small plot of land located on its site in West Windsor Township, New Jersey. The purpose of these studies is to determine the metabolism of and residue left by agricultural chemicals. These studies are required by 40 CFR Part 158 to support the registration of a pesticide or herbicide for use on a food or feed crop under U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requirements.

Cyanamid estimates that the maximum application of C-14 per year would be 100 millicuries. Each study takes about two years from initial application to final sampling. Following final sampling, the area is surveyed to identify residual radioactivity and removal of any remaining contaminated soil and monitoring of quarterly water samples from onsite wells for radioactivity. Radioactive soil will be disposed at a licensed disposal facility. Environmental radiation safety concerns include exposure of the public due to airborne releases and drinking contaminated ground water.

Cyanamid utilized a computer code (COMPLY, an EPA computer code for calculating the dose to individuals due to airborne releases) to assess radiation dose from release of radioactive material to the air. The code, using a conservative and unlikely assumption that 20 percent of the radioactivity applied is released to the air, projected an effective dose equivalent of 0.035 millirem (mrem)/year to an individual at the nearest site boundary.

To assess the radiation exposure due to groundwater contamination, Cyanamid performed dose calculations using the computer code RESRAD (a computer code developed at Argonne National Laboratory for the U.S. Department of Energy to calculate site-specific RESidual RADioactive material guidelines as well as radiation dose to a chronically exposed resident on a contaminated site). RESRAD calculated a dose of 0.15 mrem to the maximally exposed individual for the two-year period from application to remediation. For the period up to 1000 years post remediation, the maximum annual dose is 3.88 mrem during year one.

NRC has reviewed the assumptions used in the above described codes and concurs with the reported results. The

maximum (year one post-remediation) dose of 3.88 mrem estimated by Cyanamid is well below the regulatory limit of 100 mrem per year in 10 CFR 20.1301. Cyanamid has proposed an adequate monitoring program to ensure that the parameters used in the calculations are not exceeded.

Opportunity for a Hearing

The NRC hereby provides notice that this is a proceeding on an application for a license amendment falling within the scope of Subpart L, "Informal Hearing Procedures for Adjudication in Materials Licensing Proceedings," of NRC's rules and practice for domestic licensing proceedings in 10 CFR part 2. Pursuant to § 2.1205(a), any person whose interest may be affected by this proceeding may file a request for a hearing in accordance with § 2.1205(d). A request for a hearing must be filed on or before April 13, 1998.

The request for a hearing must be filed with the Office of the Secretary either:

1. By delivery to Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852-2738, between 7:45 am and 4:15 pm Federal workdays; or
2. By mail or telegram addressed to Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, Attention: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff.

In addition to meeting other applicable requirements of 10 CFR part 2 of the NRC's regulations, a request for a hearing filed by a person other than an applicant must describe in detail:

1. The interest of the requester in the proceeding;
2. How that interest may be affected by the results of the proceeding, including the reasons why the requestor should be permitted a hearing, with particular reference to the factors set out in § 2.1205(h);
3. The requester's areas of concern about the licensing activity that is the subject matter of the proceeding; and
4. The circumstance establishing that the request for a hearing is timely in accordance with § 2.1205(d).

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.1205(f), each request for a hearing must also be served, by delivering it personally or by mail, to:

1. The applicant, American Cyanamid Company, P.O. Box 400, Princeton, NJ 08543, Attention: Mr. George W. MacDurmon; and
2. The NRC staff, by delivery to Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD

20852-2738, between 7:45 am and 4:15 pm Federal workdays, or by mail, addressed to Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, Attention: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff.

For further details with respect to this action, copies of the EA and FONSI, as well as supporting documentation, are available for inspection during normal business hours at the NRC's Region I offices located at 475 Allendale Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406. Telephone: (610) 337-5069.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John R. McGrath, Senior Health Physicist, Division of Nuclear Materials Safety, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region I, 475 Allendale Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406. Telephone: (610) 337-5069.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 6th day of March 1998.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

John W.N. Hickey,
Chief, Low-Level Waste and Decommissioning Projects Branch, Division of Waste Management, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.

[FR Doc. 98-6509 Filed 3-12-98; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-16]

Detroit Edison Company Enrico Fermi Atomic Power Plant, Unit 1; Notice of Public Meeting

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission will conduct a public meeting in the Monroe County Court House, Commission's Meeting room, 125 East Second Street, Monroe, Michigan, on April 22, 1998, to discuss Detroit Edison Company's plans to complete decommissioning of its Enrico Fermi Atomic Power Plant, Unit 1 (Fermi Unit 1), Newport, Michigan. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. and will be facilitated by Mr. Francis X. Cameron, NRC's Special Counsel for Public Liaison and Agreement State Programs. This meeting will include a short presentation by the NRC staff on the decommissioning process, and a presentation by Detroit Edison Company on the status of Fermi Unit 1 and Detroit Edison Company's plans to complete decommissioning of this facility. There will be an opportunity for members of the public to make comments and question the NRC staff and/or Detroit Edison representatives. The public meeting will be transcribed.

Detroit Edison Company by letter dated December 15, 1997, submitted the Fermi Unit 1 Safety Analysis Report (SAR) for NRC review. This SAR (NUDOCS accession number 9712230264) describes the current condition of the facility.

The Fermi Unit 1 SAR is available for public inspection at the Fermi local public document room (LPDR) located at the Monroe County Library System, Ellis Reference and Information Center, 3700 S. Custer Road, Monroe, MI 48161, and at the Commission's Public Document Room located at the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, 20037.

For more information, contact Mr. Stewart W. Brown, Project Manager, Low-Level Waste and Decommissioning Projects Branch, Division of Waste Management, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington DC, 20555-0001, telephone number at (301) 415-6605.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this day of March 1998.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

John W. N. Hickey,

Chief, Low-Level Waste and Decommissioning Projects Branch, Division of Waste Management, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.

[FR Doc. 98-6507 Filed 3-12-98; 8:45 am]

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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 March 1998. The interest assumptions for performing multiemployer plan valuations following mass withdrawal under part

4281 apply to valuation dates occurring in April 1998.

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. (For TTY/TDD users, call the Federal relay service toll-free at 1-800-877-8339 and ask to be connected to 202-326-4024.)

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 change the applicable percentage to 85 percent, effective for plan years beginning on or after July 1, 1997. (The amendment also provides for a further increase in the applicable percentage—to 100 percent—when the Internal Revenue Service adopts new mortality tables for determining current liability.)

The assumed interest rate to be used in determining variable-rate premiums for premium payment years beginning in March 1998 is 5.01 percent (*i.e.*, 85 percent of the 5.89 percent yield figure for February 1998).

(Under section 774(c) of the RPA, the amendment to the applicable percentage was deferred for certain regulated public utility (RPU) plans for as long as six months. The applicable percentage for RPU plans has therefore remained 80 percent for plan years beginning before January 1, 1998. For "partial" RPU plans, the assumed interest rates to be used in determining variable-rate premiums can be computed by applying the rules in § 4006.5(g) of the premium rates regulation. The PBGC's 1997 premium payment instruction booklet also describes these rules and provides a worksheet for computing the assumed rate.)

The following table lists the assumed interest rates to be used in determining variable-rate premiums for premium payment years beginning between April 1997 and March 1998. The rates for July through December 1997 in the table (which reflect an applicable percentage of 85 percent) apply only to non-RPU plans. However, the rates for months before July 1997 and after December 1997 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:
April 1997	5.54
May 1997	5.67
June 1997	5.55
July 1997	5.75
August 1997	5.53
September 1997	5.59
October 1997	5.53
November 1997	5.38
December 1997	5.19
January 1998	5.09
February 1998	4.94
March 1998	5.01

Multiemployer Plan Valuations Following Mass Withdrawal

The PBGC's regulation on Duties of Plan Sponsor Following Mass Withdrawal (29 CFR part 4281) prescribes the use of interest assumptions under the PBGC's regulation on Allocation of Assets in Single-employer Plans (29 CFR part 4044). The interest assumptions applicable to valuation dates in April 1998 under part 4044 are contained in an amendment to part 4044 published elsewhere in today's **Federal Register**. Tables showing the assumptions applicable to prior periods are codified in appendix B to 29 CFR part 4044.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on this 9th day of March 1998.

David M. Strauss,

Executive Director, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

[FR Doc. 98-6506 Filed 3-12-98; 8:45 am]

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RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

Agency Forms Submitted for OMB Review

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) has submitted the following proposal(s) for the collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget for review and approval.