

As discussed above, the projected dose due to power uprate is about 2 percent of the applicable NRC limits in 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix I for offsite exposures, and will remain within the acceptable limits of 10 CFR 20 for occupational exposures. The actual releases at the BFN units will also remain within the FES estimates. Thus, the amendment does not significantly effect the amount or type of radiological plant effluents, and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, the staff concludes that continued compliance with applicable Federal, State, and Local agency requirements relating to environmental protection will preclude any significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed uprate. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action

Since the Commission has concluded there is no significant 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 NRC staff considered denial of the proposed action (no action alternative). Denial of the application would result in no change in current environmental impacts and would reduce operational flexibility.

Alternative Use of Resources

This action does not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the FES dated September 1, 1972 for BFN Units 2 and 3.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

In accordance with its stated policy, on August 26, 1998, the NRC staff consulted with the Alabama State official, Mr. Kirk Whatley of the State Office of Radiation Control, 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 this action, see the application for amendment dated October 1, 1997, as supplemented October 14, 1997; and

March 16 and 20, April 1 and 28, May 1, 20 and 22, June 12, 17 and 26, and July 17, 24, and 31, 1998, which are 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 Athens Public Library, 405 E. South Street, Athens, Alabama.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 26th day of August 1998.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Frederick J. Hebdon,

Director, Project Directorate II-3, Division of Reactor Projects—I/II, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 98-23458 Filed 8-31-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

DATE: Wednesday, September 2, 1998.

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

STATUS: Public and Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

Wednesday, September 2

10:00 a.m.—Briefing on PRA Implementation Plan (Public Meeting) (Contact: Tom King, 301-415-5828)

11:30 a.m.—Affirmation Session (Public Meeting)

* (Please Note: This item will be affirmed immediately following the conclusion of the preceding meeting.)

a. Final Rule on Financial Assurance Requirements for Decommissioning Nuclear Power Reactors (Contact: Ken Hart, 301-415-1659)

*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 wmh@nrc.gov or dkw@nrc.gov.

William M. Hill, Jr.,

Secy Tracking Officer, Office of the Secretary.
[FR Doc. 98-23633 Filed 8-28-98; 11:31 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-M

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

DATE: Weeks of August 31, September 7, 14, and 21, 1998.

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

STATUS: Public and Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED

Week of August 31

Wednesday, September 2

10:00 a.m.—Briefing on PRA Implementation Plan (PUBLIC MEETING) (Contact: Tom King, 301-415-5828)

11:30 a.m.—Affirmation session (PUBLIC MEETING)

* (PLEASE NOTE: This item will be affirmed immediately following the conclusion of the preceding meeting.)

a. Final Rule on Financial Assurance Requirements for Decommissioning Nuclear Power Reactors (Contact: Ken Hart, 301-415-1659)

Thursday, September 3

10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.—All Employees Meetings (PUBLIC MEETINGS) on "The Green" Plaza Area between buildings at White Flint (Contact: Cynthia Marcy—301-415-3133)

Week of September 7—Tentative

Thursday, September 10

3:30 p.m.—Affirmation Session (PUBLIC MEETING) (if needed)

Week of September 14—Tentative

Tuesday, September 15

2:00 p.m.—Briefing by Reactor Vendors Owners Groups (PUBLIC MEETING) (Contact: Bryan Sheron, 301-415-1274)

3:30 p.m.—Affirmation Session (PUBLIC MEETING) (if needed)

Thursday, September 17

9:00 a.m.—Briefing on Investigative Matters (Closed—Ex. 5 and 7)

Week of September 21—Tentative

There are no meetings the week of September 21.

*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.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION. By a vote of 3-0 on August 26, the Commission determined pursuant to U.S.C. 552b(e) and § 9.107(a) of the Commission's rules that "Affirmation of Baltimore Gas & Electric Company (Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Units 1 and 2). Docket Nos. 50-317-LR, 50-318-LR, Order Referring Petition for Intervention and Request for Hearing to Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel, CLI-98-14" (PUBLIC MEETING) be held on August 26, and on less than one week's notice to the public.

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 wmh@nrc.gov or dkw@nrc.gov.

William M. Hill, Jr.,

SECY Tracking Officer, Office of the Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-23667 Filed 8-28-98; 2:29 pm]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-M

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Consolidated Guidance About Materials Licenses: Applications for Sealed Source and Device Evaluation and Registration, Dated July 1998

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is announcing the completion and availability of NUREG-1556, Vol. 3, "Consolidated Guidance about Materials Licenses: Applications for Sealed Source and Device Evaluation and Registration," dated July 1998.

ADDRESSES: Copies of NUREG-1556, Vol. 3 may be obtained by writing to the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, P. O. Box 37082, Washington, DC 20402-9328. Copies are also available from the National Technical Information Service, 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, Virginia 22161. A copy of the document is also available for inspection and/or copying for a fee in the NRC Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, NW. (Lower Level), Washington, DC 20555-0001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Sally L. Merchant, Mail Stop TWFN 9-F-31, Division of Industrial and Medical Nuclear Safety, Office of Nuclear Materials Safety and Safeguards, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555. Telephone: 301-415-7874.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On November 6, 1997, (62 FR 60112), NRC announced the availability of draft NUREG-1556, Volume 3, "Consolidated Guidance about Materials Licenses: Applications for Sealed Source and Device Evaluation and Registration," dated September 1997, and requested comments on it. This draft NUREG report was the third program-specific guidance developed to support an improved materials licensing process. The NRC staff considered all of the comments, including constructive suggestions to improve the document, in the preparation of the final NUREG report.

The final version of NUREG-1556, Volume 3, is now available for use by applicants, licensees, NRC license reviewers, and other NRC staff. It supersedes the guidance for applicants and licensees previously found in NUREG-1550, "Standard Review Plan for Applications for Sealed Source and Device Evaluations and Registrations," Regulatory Guide 10.10, "Guide for the Preparation of Applications for Radiation Safety Evaluation and Registration of Devices Containing Byproduct Material," Regulatory Guide 10.11, "Guide for the Preparation of Applications for Radiation Safety Evaluation and Registration of Sealed Sources Containing Byproduct Material," and the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards Policy and Guidance Directives 22, "What Source and Device Designs Require an Evaluation," and 84-5, "Source and Device Evaluation Technical Assistance Request." This final report should be used in preparing sealed source and device applications. NRC staff will use this final report in reviewing these applications.

Electronic Access

NUREG-1556, Volume 3, is also available electronically by visiting NRC's Home Page (<http://www.nrc.gov>) and choosing "Nuclear Materials," and then "NUREG-1556, Volume 3."

Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act

In accordance with the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Act of 1996, the NRC has determined that this action is not a major rule and has verified this determination with the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of the Office of Management and Budget.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 14 day of August, 1998.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission,
Donald A. Cool,

Director, Division of Industrial and Medical Nuclear Safety, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.

[FR Doc. 98-23457 Filed 8-31-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

Determination of Quarterly Rate of Excise Tax for Railroad Retirement Supplemental Annuity Program

In accordance with directions in Section 3221(c) of the Railroad Retirement Tax Act (26 U.S.C. 3221(c)), the Railroad Retirement Board has determined that the excise tax imposed by such Section 3221(c) on every employer, with respect to having individuals in his employ, for each work-hour for which compensation is paid by such employer for services rendered to him during the quarter beginning October 1, 1998, shall be at the rate of 35 cents.

In accordance with directions in Section 15(a) of the Railroad Retirement Act of 1974, the Railroad Retirement Board has determined that for the quarter beginning October 1, 1998, 28.6 percent of the taxes collected under Sections 3211(b) and 3221(c) of the Railroad Retirement Tax Act shall be credited to the Railroad Retirement Account and 71.4 percent of the taxes collected under such Sections 3211(b) and 3221(c) plus 100 percent of the taxes collected under Section 3221(d) of the Railroad Retirement Tax Act shall be credited to the Railroad Retirement Supplemental Account.

Dated: August 24, 1998.