

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50-254 and 50-265]

Commonwealth Edison Co. and MidAmerican Energy Co.; Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station, Units 1 and 2; Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering the issuance of an order, approving under 10 CFR 50.80, the transfer of control of Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-29 and DPR-30, to the extent held by MidAmerican Energy Company (MidAmerican) for possession of the Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station, Units 1 and 2 (Quad Cities), located in Rock Island County, Illinois.

Environmental Assessment*Identification of the Proposed Action*

The proposed action would consent to the transfer of control of the licenses, with respect to MidAmerican's 25 percent ownership interest in Quad Cities, to the extent such transfer would be effected by a proposed corporate merger involving CalEnergy Company (CalEnergy) and MidAmerican Energy Holdings Company (MAHC), the parent of MidAmerican. Commonwealth Edison Company (ComEd) alone is licensed to operate, as well as possess Quad Cities and is not involved in the proposed merger. MidAmerican would continue to remain the minority owner and possession-only licensee of the facility.

The proposed action is in accordance with the application dated September 10, 1998, filed by CalEnergy and MidAmerican, accompanied by cover letters dated September 10, 1998, and supplemented by a letter dated September 16, 1998, and attachments thereto, from Roy P. Lessy, Jr., counsel for CalEnergy and MidAmerican.

The Need for the Proposed Action

The proposed action is needed to permit the consummation of the proposed corporate merger discussed above to the extent the merger will effect a transfer of control of the licenses.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Actions

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed merger and concludes that there will be no changes to Quad Cities or the environment as a result of this action. The transfer of control of the licenses to the extent effected by the merger between

MidAmerican and CalEnergy will not affect the numbers, qualifications, or organizational affiliation of the personnel who operate the facility, since ComEd is not involved in the proposed merger and will continue to be solely responsible for the operation of Quad Cities. No changes are being made with respect to any requirements governing plant operations or equipment.

The Commission has evaluated the environmental impact of the proposed action and has determined that the probability or consequences of accidents would not be increased by the proposed action and that post-accident radiological releases would not be greater than previously determined. Further, the Commission has determined that the proposed action would not affect routine radiological plant effluents and would not increase occupational radiological exposure. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

With regard to potential non-radiological impacts, the proposed action would not affect non-radiological plant effluents and would have no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant non-radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action

Since the Commission has concluded that there are no significant environmental effects associated with the proposed action, any alternative with equal or greater environmental impact need not be evaluated.

The principal alternative would be to deny the requested approval. Denial of the application would result in no change in current environmental impacts. The environmental impacts of the proposed action and the alternative actions are identical.

Alternative Use of Resources

The action does not involve the use of resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement Related to Operation of Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station, Units 1 and 2, dated September 1972.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

In accordance with its stated policy, on September 30, 1998, the staff consulted with the Illinois State official, Mr. Frank Niziolek, Head, Reactor Safety Section, Division of Engineering, Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety, regarding the environmental impact of

the proposed action. The State official had no comments.

Finding of No Significant Impact

Based upon the foregoing 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 request for approval dated September 10, 1998, accompanied by cover letters dated September 10, 1998, and supplemented by a letter dated September 16, 1998, and attachments thereto, from Roy P. Lessy, Jr., counsel for CalEnergy and MidAmerican, 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 public document room located at the Dixon Public Library, 221 Hennepin Avenue, Dixon, Illinois 61021.

Dated at Rockville, MD, this 4th day of November 1998.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Stuart A. Richards,

Director, Project Directorate III-2, Division of Reactor Projects—III/IV, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 98-30255 Filed 11-10-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste; Notice of Meeting**

The Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW) will hold its 105th meeting on December 15-17, 1998, Room T-2B3, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

The entire meeting will be open to public attendance.

The schedule for this meeting is as follows:

Tuesday, December 15, 1998—8:30 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 16, 1998—8:30 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 17, 1998—8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

A. Overviews of FY-99 NRC Staff Programs—The Committee will hear a number of briefings from the NRC staff on FY-99 waste related programs. These overviews will include decommissioning activities, the High Level Waste repository program, and

programs planned or underway in the spent fuel projects office.

B. Viability Assessment—The Committee will review the Department of Energy's Yucca Mountain viability assessment. This will include an overview of the Total System Performance Assessment and factors used in abstracting TSPA models, the repository safety strategy, performance allocation, and an overview of the license application plan.

C. Preparation of ACNW Reports—The Committee will discuss planned reports on the following topics: an ACNW self assessment; a 1999 Action Plan for the Committee; proposed importance measures for evaluating nuclear waste repository performance; issues related to regulatory guidance and a standard review plan for decommissioning; observations from the recent European technical exchange; and other topics discussed during this and previous meetings as the need arises.

D. Meeting with NRC's Director, Division of Waste Management, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards—The Committee will meet with the Director to discuss recent developments within the division such as developments at the Yucca Mountain project, rules and guidance under development, available resources, and other items of mutual interest.

E. Prepare for the Next Meeting with the Commission—The Committee will begin preparations for its next public meeting with the Commission. Topics to be discussed will be selected and Committee assignments made.

F. Committee Activities/Future Agenda—The Committee will consider topics proposed for future consideration by the full Committee and Working Groups. The Committee will discuss ACNW-related activities of individual members.

G. Miscellaneous—The Committee will discuss miscellaneous matters related to the conduct of Committee activities and organizational activities and complete discussion of matters and specific issues that were not completed during previous meetings, as time and availability of information permit.

Procedures for the conduct of and participation in ACNW meetings were published in the **Federal Register** on September 29, 1998 (63 FR 51967). In accordance with these procedures, oral or written statements may be presented by members of the public, 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 Committee, its

consultants, and staff. Persons desiring to make oral statements should notify the Chief, Nuclear Waste Branch, Mr. Richard K. Major, as far in advance as practicable so that appropriate arrangements can be made to schedule the necessary time during the meeting for such statements. Use of still, motion picture, and television cameras during this meeting will be limited to selected portions of the meeting as determined by the ACNW Chairman. Information regarding the time to be set aside for taking pictures may be obtained by contacting the Chief, Nuclear Waste Branch, prior to the meeting. In view of the possibility that the schedule for ACNW meetings may be adjusted by the Chairman as necessary to facilitate the conduct of the meeting, persons planning to attend should notify Mr. Major as to their particular needs.

Further information regarding topics to be discussed, whether the meeting has been canceled or rescheduled, the Chairman's ruling on requests for the opportunity to present oral statements and the time allotted therefor can be obtained by contacting Mr. Richard K. Major, Chief, Nuclear Waste Branch (telephone 301/415-7366), between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. EST.

ACNW meeting notices, meeting transcripts, and letter reports are now available for downloading or reviewing on the internet at <http://www.nrc.gov/ACRSACNW>.

The ACNW meeting dates for Calendar Year 1999 are provided below:

ACNW Meeting No.	1999 ACNW meeting date
106th	No Meeting in January. February 22-26, 1999 (San Antonio, Texas).
107th	March 23-25, 1999. No Meeting in April.
108th	May 11-13, 1999.
109th	June 15-17, 1999.
110th	July 19-21, 1999. No Meeting in August.
111th	September 14-17, 1999 (Amargosa Valley, Nevada).
112th	October 12-14, 1999. No Meeting in November.
113th	December 14-16, 1999.

Dated: November 5, 1998.

Andrew L. Bates,

Advisory Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 98-30260 Filed 11-10-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

DATE: Weeks of November 9, 16, 23, and 30, 1998.

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

STATUS: Public and Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

Week of November 9

Thursday, November 12

11:30 a.m.

Affirmation Session (Public Meeting) (if needed)

Friday, November 13

9:00 a.m.

*Meeting on NRC Response to Stakeholders' Concerns (Public Meeting) (Contact: Bill Hill, 301-415-1661/1969)

***Please Note:** The room location for the Meeting on NRC Response to Stakeholders' Concerns, scheduled for Friday, November 13, is in the NRC auditorium, Bldg 2, NRC Headquarters, Rockville, Md.

Week of November 16—Tentative

Tuesday, November 17

11:30 a.m.

Affirmation Session (Public Meeting) (if needed)

Week of November 23—Tentative

Tuesday, November 24

9:00 a.m.

Briefing on fire Protection Issues (Public Meeting) (Contact: Steve West, 301-415-1220)

Wednesday, November 25

11:30 a.m.

Affirmation Session (Public Meeting) (if needed)

Week of November 30—Tentative

Monday, November 30

2:00 p.m.

Meeting of DC Cook (Public Meeting) (Contact: John Stang, 301-415-1345)

3:30 p.m.

Affirmation Session (Public Meeting) (if needed)

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.

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: By a vote of 5-0 on November 3, the Commission determined pursuant to U.S.C. 552b(e) and § 9.107(a) of the Commission's rules that "BRIEFING BY EXECUTIVE BRANCH" (Closed Ex.-1) be held on