

predecisional enforcement and regulatory conferences, guidance documents (e.g., the Enforcement Manual and Enforcement Guidance Memoranda (EGMs)), and a discussion of discrimination for raising safety concerns. This site includes links to other related sites and a search capability. All orders that currently prohibit or restrict individuals from employment in licensed activities are posted on the OE Home page.

The Office of Enforcement also publishes an annual report which describes enforcement activities occurring during each fiscal year. The report addresses significant policy changes, highlights significant enforcement actions, and includes summaries of cases involving exercise of discretion, discrimination, and actions involving individuals. Various statistical tables and figures are included. The annual report is also available on the OE Home page.

Discussion

NUREG-0940 was first published as a paper document, as this was the only effective way to communicate with licensees as a group and to give widespread circulation to actions taken by the NRC in enforcing regulatory requirements. Now, escalated actions that are published in the NUREG are also available to licensees and the public on the NRC website, under the Office of Enforcement Home page. All orders are published in the **Federal Register** immediately after issuance, and are also available on the website after publication.

Preparing and publishing NUREG-0940 in paper form is expensive when the cost of paper and postage are taken into account. The NRC believes that the purpose of NUREG-0940 can now be accomplished more effectively and far more efficiently by posting actions promptly on the NRC website. Whereas NUREG-0940 is prepared every six months, and the delay from issuance of an action to publication can be as much as 9 months, posting actions on the Internet is immediate. Continuing to publish material in paper form when the current information is immediately available electronically is not a judicious use of NRC resources. Providing the same information via the Internet is a more effective and efficient method of communicating this information to NRC stakeholders.

For the above reasons, the NRC believes that publication of NUREG-0940 is no longer needed. The next issue will contain a notice that will advise recipients that unless the NRC receives sufficient public comment in

support of continuing this publication, NRC will cease publication with that issue and describe where on the Internet this information can be obtained. The NRC will also accept and consider comments from persons who are not currently on the mailing list. Those comments should be submitted as indicated above.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 30th day of June 2000.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

R. William Borchardt,

Director, Office of Enforcement.

[FR Doc. 00-17771 Filed 7-12-00; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-263]

Northern States Power Co.; Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant; Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. DPR-22, issued to Northern States Power Company (NSP or the licensee) for operation of the Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant, located in Wright County, Minnesota.

Environmental Assessment

Identification of the Proposed Action

The proposed action would revise Technical Specification (TS) Chapter 6 to allow use of generic titles for personnel in lieu of plant-specific titles, update the TS table of contents to reflect changes due to the amendment, and correct typographical errors.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application for amendment dated May 4, 2000.

The Need for the Proposed Action

The proposed action would provide clarity to the TSs and remove an unnecessary NRC and licensee burden with no increase in safety when titles are changed.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

The NRC has completed its evaluation of the proposed action and concludes that the changes to the TSs are administrative in nature.

The proposed action will not significantly increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types of any effluents that may be released off site,

and there is no significant increase in occupational or public radiation exposure. Therefore, there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed action does not involve any historic sites. It does not affect nonradiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Accordingly, the NRC concludes that there are no significant environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

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.

Alternative Use of Resources

This action does not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement for Monticello.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

In accordance with its stated policy, on June 22, 2000, the staff consulted with the Minnesota State official, Ms. N. Campbell of the Department of Commerce, regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comments.

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 May 4, 2000, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, The Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC. 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).

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 7th day of July 2000.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Carl F. Lyon,

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

[FR Doc. 00-17768 Filed 7-12-00; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Experts' Meeting on High-Burnup Fuel Behavior Under Postulated Accident Conditions

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Nuclear Regulatory Commission will hold a meeting to further develop a Phenomena Identification and Ranking Table (PIRT) for loss of coolant accidents (LOCAs). PIRTs have been used at NRC since 1988, and they provide a structured way to obtain a technical understanding that is needed to address certain issues. About twenty of the world's best technical experts are participating in this activity, and the experts represent a balance between industry, universities, foreign researchers, and regulatory organizations. The current PIRT activity is addressing postulated LOCAs for a BWR and a PWR.

DATES: July 25-27, 2000, 8:30 am-5:30 pm.

ADDRESSES: Room T10A1 (TWFN) of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting agenda will be posted on the NRC Web site at www.nrc.gov/RES/meetings.htm by July 17, 2000. The meeting is open to the public. Attendees will need to obtain a visitor badge at the TWFN building lobby.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Ralph Meyer, SMSAB, Division of Systems Analysis and Regulatory Effectiveness, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, Washington, D.C. 20555-0001, telephone (301) 415-6789.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 10th day of July 2000.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Farouk Eltawila,

Director, Division of Systems Analysis and Regulatory Effectiveness, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research.

[FR Doc. 00-17766 Filed 7-12-00; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, Subcommittee Meeting on Thermal-Hydraulic Phenomena; Notice of Meeting

The ACRS Subcommittee on Thermal-Hydraulic Phenomena will hold a meeting on August 8-9, 2000, Room T-2B3, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

Most of the meeting will be closed to public attendance to discuss proprietary information per 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(4) pertinent to Siemens Power Corporation.

The agenda for the subject meeting shall be as follows:

*Tuesday, August 8, 2000—8:30 a.m.
Until the Conclusion of Business*

*Wednesday, August 9, 2000—8:30 a.m.
Until the Conclusion of Business*

The Subcommittee will begin review of Siemens Power Corporation S-RELAP5 thermal-hydraulic systems code. The purpose of this meeting is to gather information, analyze relevant issues and facts, and to formulate proposed positions and actions, as appropriate, for deliberation by the full Committee.

Oral statements may be presented by members of the public with the concurrence of the Subcommittee Chairman. Written statements will be accepted and made available to the Committee. 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 Subcommittee, its consultants, and staff. Persons desiring to make oral statements should notify the cognizant ACRS staff engineer named below five days prior to the meeting, if possible, so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

During the initial portion of the meeting, the Subcommittee, along with any of its consultants who may be present, may exchange preliminary views regarding matters to be considered during the balance of the meeting.

The Subcommittee will then hear presentations by and hold discussions with representatives of the Siemens Power Corporation, the NRC staff, and other interested persons regarding this review.

Further information regarding topics to be discussed, whether the meeting has been canceled or rescheduled, and the Chairman's ruling on requests for the opportunity to present oral statements and the time allotted

therefor, can be obtained by contacting the cognizant ACRS staff engineer, Mr. Paul A. Boehnert (telephone 301/415-8065) between 7:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. (EDT). Persons planning to attend this meeting are urged to contact the above named individual one or two working days prior to the meeting to be advised of any potential changes to the agenda, etc., that may have occurred.

Dated: July 7, 2000.

Howard J. Larson,

Acting Associate Director for Technical Support, ACRS/ACNW.

[FR Doc. 00-17783 Filed 7-12-00; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 33-7872]

Revision of the Commission's Auditor Independence Requirements

AGENCY: Securities and Exchange Commission.

ACTION: Notice of hearings.

SUMMARY: On June 27, 2000, the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") approved proposed rule amendments (the "Proposing Release") regarding auditor independence (Securities Act Release No. 33-7870). Copies of the Proposing Release are available on the Commission's website at www.sec.gov. In connection with those proposals, the Commission announced that it will hold public hearings. The purpose of the hearings is to give the Commission the benefit of the views of interested members of the public regarding the issues raised and questions posed in the Proposing Release. The Commission is announcing that the initial public hearing will be held on July 26, 2000 in Washington, D.C. Additional public hearings will be held in September.

DATES: The initial public hearing will be held on July 26, 2000 in Washington, D.C. Additional public hearings will be held in September. The following information pertains to the July 26th hearing. The hearing on July 26 will begin at 9:00 a.m. Those who wish to testify at the hearing must submit a written request to the Commission. The Commission must receive these requests on or before July 17, 2000. Persons requesting to testify must also submit three copies of their oral statements or a summary of their intended testimony to the Commission. The Commission must receive these submissions on or before July 21, 2000. Those who do not wish to appear at the hearings may