

during plant operation would violate a TS requirement.

Valves SA-1, SA-2, SA-77, and SA-78 can be manually closed, as needed during certain accidents, to isolate the steam lines they serve. If SA-1, SA-2, SA-77, and SA-78 are inaccessible due to post-accident environmental conditions, the associated stop check valves can be used to isolate these steam lines. The licensee stated that the amount of time needed by operators to isolate steam using SA-1, SA-2, SA-77, and SA-78, or their associated stop check valves SA-5 and SA-6, has been factored into the accident analyses and resultant dose calculations in the Updated Final Safety Analysis Report.

Thus, as stated in the staff's safety evaluation, modifying valves SA-1, SA-2, SA-77, and SA-78 so that they can meet the operational requirement specified by GDC-57 would reduce the reliability of the TDCA and violate an existing TS. The time needed by operators to manually close SA-1, SA-2, SA-77, and SA-78 or their associated stop check valves SA-5 and SA-6, during an accident, has been factored into accident analyses. The applicable design-basis accident scenarios and consequences continue to be bounding. On such bases, the staff concludes that literal compliance with the operational aspect of GDC-57 is not desirable and the proposed exemption is acceptable.

#### IV

Accordingly, the Commission has determined that special circumstances are present as defined in 10 CFR 50.12(a)(2)(ii). Specifically, the Commission finds that application of GDC-57 with respect to valves SA-1, SA-2, SA-77, and SA-78 conflicts with existing TS and is not necessary to achieve the underlying purpose of the rule. The underlying purpose of GDC-57 is to ensure that reliable means exist to isolate this type of line when isolation is needed. As discussed above, valves SA-1, SA-2, SA-77, and SA-78, or SA-5 and SA-6, can be manually closed to isolate their respective steam lines. Thus, the design of these valves and the existence of appropriate procedures for manually closing these valves provide a reliable method of isolating the steam lines when needed. The Commission hereby grants the licensee an exemption from the requirement of 10 CFR part 50, appendix A, GDC-57. Specifically, this exempts the licensee from having to lock close valves SA-1, SA-2, SA-77, and SA-78 against TS requirements, or having to so modify them that they become automatic, or are capable of remote manual operation.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.32, the Commission has determined that granting of this exemption will have no significant effect on the quality of the human environment (64 FR 50839).

This exemption is effective upon issuance.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 20th day of September 1999.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**John A. Zwolinski,**

*Director, Division of Licensing Project Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*

[FR Doc. 99-24900 Filed 9-23-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

#### OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

##### Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Review of a Revised Information Collection: SF 3104 and SF 3104B

**AGENCY:** Office of Personnel Management.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Public Law 104-13, May 22, 1995), this notice announces that the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) intends to submit to the Office of Management and Budget a request for review of a revised information collection. SF 3104, Application for Death Benefits/Federal Employees Retirement, is used by persons applying for benefits which may be payable under the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) because of the death of an employee, former employee, or retiree who was covered by FERS at the time of his/her death or separation from Federal Service. SF 3104B, Documentation and Elections in Support of Application for Death Benefits when Deceased was an Employee at the Time of Death, is used by applicants for death benefits under FERS if the deceased was a Federal employee at the time of death.

Comments are particularly invited on: whether this information is necessary for the proper performance of functions of the Office of Personnel Management, and whether it will have practical utility; whether our estimate of the public burden of this collection of information is accurate, and based on valid assumptions and methodology; and ways in which we can minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through the use of appropriate technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

It is estimated that approximately 4,873 SF 3104s will be processed annually. This form requires approximately 60 minutes to complete. An annual burden of 4,873 hours is estimated. Approximately 3,188 SF 3104Bs are expected to be processed annually. It is estimated that the form requires approximately 60 minutes to complete. An annual burden of 3,188 hours is estimated. The total annual burden is 8,061.

For copies of this proposal, contact Mary Beth Smith-Toomey on (202) 606-8358, or E-mail to mbtoomey@opm.gov

**DATES:** Comments on this proposal should be received on or before November 23, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Send or deliver comments to—John C. Crawford, Chief, FERS Division, Retirement and Insurance Service, U.S. Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street, NW, Room 3313, Washington, DC 20415.

#### FOR INFORMATION REGARDING

**ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATION—CONTACT:** Phyllis R. Pinkney, Management Analyst, Budget & Administrative Services Division, (202) 606-0623.

Office of Personnel Management.

**Janice R. Lachance,**

*Director.*

[FR Doc. 99-24859 Filed 9-23-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6325-01-P

#### OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

[RI 92-19]

##### Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Review of a Revised Information Collection

**AGENCY:** Office of Personnel Management.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13, May 22, 1995), this notice announces that the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) intends to submit to the Office of Management and Budget a request for review of a revised information collection. RI 92-19, Application for Deferred or Postponed Retirement: Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS), is used by separated employees to apply for either a deferred or a postponed FERS annuity benefit.

Comments are particularly invited on: whether this information is necessary for the proper performance of functions of the Office of Personnel Management, and whether it will have practical utility; whether our estimate of the