

displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Information pertaining to the requirement to be submitted:

1. *Type of submission, new, revision, of extension:* Revision.
2. *The title of the information collection:* Policy Statement for the "Criteria for Guidance of States and NRC in Discontinuance of NRC Regulatory Authority and Assumption Thereof by States Through Agreement," Maintenance of Existing Agreement State Programs, Request for Information through the Integrated Materials Performance Evaluation Program (IMPEP) Questionnaire, and Agreement State Participation in IMPEP.
3. *The form number if applicable:* Not applicable.
4. *How often the collection is required:* There are four activities that occur under this collection: information collection activities required by the IMPEP questionnaire in preparation for an IMPEP review conducted no less frequently than every four years; while the following activities are all collected on an annual basis—policy statement addressing requirements for new Agreement States; participation by Agreement States in the IMPEP reviews; and annual requirements for Agreement States to maintain their programs.
5. *Who will be required or asked to report:* 33 Agreement States who have signed Section 274b Agreements with NRC.
6. *An estimate of the number of annual responses:* For States interested in becoming an Agreement State: approximately one State per year. For Agreement State participation in IMPEP reviews: 11 (9 State, 1 NRC Region and 1 Follow-up Review per year). For maintenance of existing Agreement State programs: 33 States. For Agreement State response to IMPEP questionnaires: 9 States. The total number of annual responses is 54.
7. *The estimated number of annual respondents:* 33.
8. *The number of hours needed annually to complete the requirement or request:* For States interested in becoming an Agreement State: Approximately 4,300 hours. For Agreement State participation in 11 IMPEP reviews (9 State, 1 NRC Region and 1 Follow-up Review): 396 hours (an average of 36 hours per review). For maintenance of existing Agreement State programs: 252,000 hours (an average of approximately 7,636 hours per State for 33 Agreement States). For Agreement State response to 9 IMPEP questionnaires annually: 477 hours (an average of 53 hours per program). The

total number of hours expended annually is 257,173 hours.

9. *An indication of whether section 3507(d), Pub. L. 104-13 applies:* Not applicable.

10. *Abstract:* States wishing to become an Agreement State are requested to provide certain information to the NRC as specified by the Commission's Policy Statement, "Criteria for Guidance of States and NRC in Discontinuance of NRC Regulatory Authority and Assumption Thereof by States Through Agreement." Agreement States need to ensure that the Radiation Control Program under the Agreement remains adequate and compatible with the requirements of Section 274 of the Atomic Energy Act (Act) and must maintain certain information. NRC conducts periodic evaluations through IMPEP to ensure that these programs are compatible with the NRC's, meet the applicable parts of the Act, and are adequate to protect public health and safety.

A copy of the final supporting statement may be viewed free of charge at the NRC Public Document Room, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Room O-1 F21, Rockville, Maryland 20852. OMB clearance requests are available at the NRC World Wide Web site: <http://www.nrc.gov/public-involve/doc-comment/omb/index.html>. The document will be available on the NRC home page site for 60 days after the signature date of this notice.

Comments and questions should be directed to the OMB reviewer listed below by May 28, 2004. Comments received after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but assurance of consideration cannot be given to comments received after this date. OMB Desk Officer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (3150-0183), NEOB-10202, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

Comments can also be submitted by telephone at (202) 395-3087.

The NRC Clearance Officer is Brenda Jo. Shelton, (301) 415-7233.

Dated in Rockville, Maryland, this 22nd day of April, 2004.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Brenda Jo. Shelton,**

*NRC Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 050-206, 050-361, and 050-362]

### Notice of Availability of Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact for an Exemption From Certain Control and Tracking Requirements in 10 CFR Part 20 Appendix G Section III.E for the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station in San Diego County, CA

#### I. Introduction

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is considering the issuance of an exemption from certain control and tracking requirements in 10 CFR part 20 for the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS). The SONGS site consists of two operating reactors and a permanently shutdown nuclear reactor facility located in San Diego County, California. Inherent to the decommissioning process, large volumes of slightly contaminated rubble and debris are generated and require disposal. On January 26, 2004, Southern California Edison (the licensee) requested an exemption from the requirements in 10 CFR part 20, appendix G section III.E to investigate and file a report to the NRC if shipments of low-level radioactive waste are not acknowledged by the intended recipient within 20 days after transfer to the shipper. This exemption would extend the time period that can elapse during shipments of low-level radioactive waste before the licensee is required to investigate and file a report to the NRC from 20 days to 35 days. The exemption request is based on a statistical analysis of the historical data of low-level radioactive waste shipment times from the licensee's site to the disposal site using rail or combination truck/rail shipping methods. The NRC staff has prepared an environmental assessment (EA) in support of this action, in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR part 51. The conclusion of the EA is a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the proposed action.

#### II. EA Summary

The proposed action would grant an exemption to extend the 20-day investigation and reporting requirements for shipments of low-level radioactive waste to 35 days. Since 1999, the licensee has made over 150 shipments of low-level radioactive waste as part of the decommissioning efforts at the facility. MHF Logistical Solutions (MHF) is the rail broker company used by the licensee to perform these shipments. MHF

Logistical Solutions has a tracking system that monitors the progress of the shipments from their originating point at SONGS until they arrive to their final destination at Envirocare in Clive, Utah. The shipments are made by either rail or combination truck/rail. According to the licensee, the transportation time alone by either rail or combination truck/rail took over 16 days on average, with one shipment taking 57 days to arrive at Envirocare.

In addition to this time, administrative procedures at Envirocare and mail delivery could add up to 11 additional days. Based on historical data and estimates of the remaining waste at SONGS Unit 1, the licensee could have to perform over 100 investigations and reports to the NRC during the next five years if the 20-day shipping criteria is maintained. The licensee affirms that the low-level radioactive waste shipments will always be tracked throughout transportation until they arrive at their intended destination. The licensee believes that the need to investigate, trace, and report to the NRC on the shipment of low-level radioactive waste packages not reaching their destination within 20 days does not serve the underlying purpose of the rule and it is not necessary. As a result, the licensee states that granting this exemption will not result in an undue hazard to life or property.

The NRC has examined the licensee's proposed exemption request and concluded that it is procedural and administrative in nature. There are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with this exemption, and it will not result in significant nonradiological environmental impacts.

### III. Finding of No Significant Impact

NRC has prepared the EA (summarized above) in support of the licensee's application for an exemption request. 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.

### IV. Further Information

The EA and the documents related to this proposed action, including the request for the exemption, are available for inspection at the NRC Public Electronic Reading Room at the following address: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/pdr.html>. The ADAMS accession number for the licensee's exemption request letter dated January 26, 2004 is ML040330945. The ADAMS

accession number for the EA is ML040780782. Persons who do not have access to ADAMS, or who encounter problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, should contact the NRC Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff by telephone at 1-800-397-4209 or 301-415-4737. They can also be reached via e-mail at [pdr@nrc.gov](mailto:pdr@nrc.gov). Documents may also be examined, and/or copied for a fee, at the NRC PDR, located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852. Any questions with respect to this action should be referred to Mr. William C. Huffman, Division of Waste Management and Environmental Protection, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards. He can be reached at (301) 415-1141.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.  
Dated in Rockville, Maryland, this 21st day of April, 2004.

**Daniel M. Gillen,**

*Deputy Director, Decommissioning Directorate, Division of Waste Management and Environmental Protection, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.*

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## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

### Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards Subcommittee Meeting on Planning and Procedures; Notice of Meeting

The ACRS Subcommittee on Planning and Procedures will hold a meeting on May 5, 2004, Room T-2B1, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

The entire meeting will be open to public attendance, with the exception of a portion that may be closed pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(2) and (6) to discuss organizational and personnel matters that relate solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of the ACRS, and information the release of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

The agenda for the subject meeting shall be as follows:

**Wednesday, May 5, 2004—8:30 a.m.—10:30 a.m.**

The Subcommittee will discuss proposed ACRS activities and related matters. The Subcommittee will gather information, analyze relevant issues and facts, and formulate proposed positions and actions, as appropriate, for deliberation by the full Committee.

Members of the public desiring to provide oral statements and/or written

comments should notify the Designated Federal Official, Mr. Sam Duraiswamy (telephone: 301-415-7364) between 7:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. (e.t.) five days prior to the meeting, if possible, so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Electronic recordings will be permitted only during those portions of the meeting that are open to the public.

Further information regarding this meeting can be obtained by contacting the Designated Federal Official between 7:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. (e.t.). Persons planning to attend this meeting are urged to contact the above named individual at least two working days prior to the meeting to be advised of any potential changes in the agenda.

Dated: April 20, 2004.

**Medhat El-Zeftawy,**

*Acting Associate Director for Technical Support, ACRS/ACNW.*

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## OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

### Revised Information Quality Bulletin on Peer Review

**AGENCY:** Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of Management and Budget (OMB), in consultation with the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), is re-proposing its new guidance designed to realize the benefits of meaningful peer review of the most important science disseminated by the Federal Government. This Notice requests comment on the revised Bulletin, now entitled "Revised Information Quality Bulletin on Peer Review." OMB originally requested comment on its "Proposed Bulletin on Peer Review and Information Quality," published in the **Federal Register** on September 15, 2003. We received 187 comments during the public comment period, listened to discussion at a public workshop at the National Academy of Sciences (NAS), and carried out an interagency review. This process led to a substantially revised Bulletin, which incorporates many of the diverse perspectives and suggestions voiced during the comment period. The public comments are posted at: [http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/infoereg/2003iq/iq\\_list.html](http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/infoereg/2003iq/iq_list.html). A summary of the public and agency comments, including responses by OMB and OSTP, is