

NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

National Endowment for the Arts; National Council on the Arts 158th Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), as amended, notice is hereby given that a meeting of the National Council on the Arts will be held by teleconference on May 17, 2006 from 2 p.m.-2:30 p.m. (ending time is approximate) from the Nancy Hanks Center, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20506.

This meeting will be open to the public on a call in basis. After introductory remarks by Chairman Gioia, there will be a discussion and voice vote on the NEA Jazz Masters Fellowships and NEA National Heritage Fellowships categories. There will be discussion of other business items as necessary, followed by concluding remarks by the Chairman.

If, in the course of the open session discussion, it becomes necessary for the Council to discuss non-public commercial or financial information of intrinsic value, the Council will go into closed session in accordance with the determination of the Chairman of February 26, 2006, pursuant to subsection (c)(4) of the Government in the Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. 552b. Additionally, discussion concerning purely personal information about individuals, submitted with grant applications, such as personal biographical and salary data or medical information, may be conducted by the Council in closed session in accordance with subsection (c)(6) of 5 U.S.C. 552b.

Any interested persons may call in and listen to the Council discussions and reviews that are open to the public. Please contact Ed Bishop at 202-682-5625 if you are interested in attending the teleconference. If you need special accommodations due to a disability, please contact the Office of AccessAbility, National Endowment for the Arts, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20506, 202/682-5532, TTY-TDD 202/682-5429, at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting.

Further information with reference to this meeting can be obtained from the Office of Communications, National Endowment for the Arts, Washington, DC 20506, at 202/682-5570.

Dated: April 17, 2006.

Kathy Plowitz-Worden,

Panel Coordinator, Office of Guidelines and Panel Operations.

[FR Doc. E6-5994 Filed 4-20-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7537-01-P

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Advisory Committee for Geosciences; Notice of Meeting

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), as amended, the National Science Foundation announces the following meeting:

Name: Advisory Committee for Geosciences (1755).

Dates/Time: 9-5:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 3, 2006. 8:30 a.m.-12 noon. Friday, May 5, 2006.

Place: National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Room 375, Arlington, VA 22230.

Type of Meeting: Open.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

CONTACT: Dr. Thomas Spence, Directorate for Geosciences, National Science Foundation, Suite 705, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22230, Phone 703-292-8500.

Minutes: May be obtained from the contact person listed above.

Purpose of Meeting: To provide advice, recommendations, and oversight concerning support for research, education, and human resources development in the geosciences.

Agenda:

Day 1: Directorate Activities; Subcommittee Meetings.

Day 2: Subcommittee Reports; Directorate Activities.

Day 3: Plans and Activities.

Dated: April 18, 2006.

Susanne Bolton,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 06-3816 Filed 4-20-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-271]

Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.; Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Conduct Scoping Process

Energy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (Entergy) has submitted an application for renewal of Facility Operating License No. DPR-28 for an additional 20 years of operation at the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station (VYNPS). VYNPS is located in the town of Vernon, Vermont, in Windham County on the west shore of the Connecticut River immediately upstream of the Vernon Hydroelectric Station.

The operating license for VYNPS expires on March 21, 2012. The

application for renewal, dated January 25, 2006, as supplemented by letter dated March 15, 2006, was submitted pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 54. A notice of receipt and availability of the application, which included the environmental report (ER), was published in the **Federal Register** on February 6, 2006 (71 FR 6102). A notice of acceptance for docketing of the application for renewal of the facility operating license was published in the **Federal Register** on March 27, 2006, (71 FR 15220). The purpose of this notice is to inform the public that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will be preparing an environmental impact statement (EIS) related to the review of the license renewal application and to provide the public an opportunity to participate in the environmental scoping process, as in defined in 10 CFR 51.29. In addition, as outlined in 36 CFR 800.8, "Coordination with the National Environmental Policy Act," the NRC plans to coordinate compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act in meeting the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA).

In accordance with 10 CFR 51.53(c) and 10 CFR 54.23, Entergy submitted the ER as part of the application. The ER was prepared pursuant to 10 CFR Part 51 and is publicly available at the NRC Public Document Room (PDR), located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland, 20852, or from the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). The ADAMS Public Electronic Reading Room is accessible at <http://adamswebsearch.nrc.gov/dologin.htm>. The Accession Number for the ER is ML060300086. Persons who do not have access to ADAMS, or who encounter problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, should contact the NRC's PDR reference staff by telephone at 1-800-397-4209, or 301-415-4737, or by e-mail at pdr@nrc.gov. The ER may also be viewed on the Internet at <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal/applications/vermont-yankee.html>. In addition, the ER is available for public inspection near the VYNPS at the following four public libraries: Vernon Free Library, 567 Governor Hunt Rd, Vernon, VT 05354; Brooks Memorial Library, 224 Main Street, Brattleboro, VT 05301; Hinsdale Public Library, 122 Brattleboro Road, Hinsdale, NH, 03451; and Dickinson Memorial Library, 115 Main St, Northfield, MA 01360.

This notice advises the public that the NRC intends to gather the information necessary to prepare a plant-specific supplement to the Commission's "Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants," (NUREG-1437) related to the review of the application for renewal of the VYNPS operating license for an additional 20 years. Possible alternatives to the proposed action (license renewal) include no action and reasonable alternative energy sources. The NRC is required by 10 CFR 51.95 to prepare a supplement to the GEIS in connection with the renewal of an operating license. This notice is being published in accordance with NEPA and the NRC's regulations found in 10 CFR Part 51.

The NRC will first conduct a scoping process for the supplement to the GEIS and, as soon as practicable thereafter, will prepare a draft supplement to the GEIS for public comment. Participation in the scoping process by members of the public and local, State, Tribal, and Federal government agencies is encouraged. The scoping process for the supplement to the GEIS will be used to accomplish the following:

a. Define the proposed action which is to be the subject of the supplement to the GEIS.

b. Determine the scope of the supplement to the GEIS and identify the significant issues to be analyzed in depth.

c. Identify and eliminate from detailed study those issues that are peripheral or that are not significant.

d. Identify any environmental assessments and other EISs that are being or will be prepared that are related to, but are not part of, the scope of the supplement to the GEIS being considered.

e. Identify other environmental review and consultation requirements related to the proposed action.

f. Indicate the relationship between the timing of the preparation of the environmental analyses and the Commission's tentative planning and decision-making schedule.

g. Identify any cooperating agencies and, as appropriate, allocate assignments for preparation and schedules for completing the supplement to the GEIS to the NRC and any cooperating agencies.

h. Describe how the supplement to the GEIS will be prepared, and include any contractor assistance to be used.

The NRC invites the following entities to participate in scoping:

a. The applicant, Energy Nuclear Operations, Inc.

b. Any Federal agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to any environmental impact involved, or that is authorized to develop and enforce relevant environmental standards.

c. Affected State and local government agencies, including those authorized to develop and enforce relevant environmental standards.

d. Any affected Indian tribe.

e. Any person who requests or has requested an opportunity to participate in the scoping process.

f. Any person who has petitioned or intends to petition for leave to intervene.

In accordance with 10 CFR 51.26, the scoping process for an EIS may include a public scoping meeting to help identify significant issues related to a proposed activity and to determine the scope of issues to be addressed in an EIS. The NRC has decided to hold public meetings for the VYNPS license renewal supplement to the GEIS. The scoping meetings will be held at the Latchis Theatre, 50 Main Street, Brattleboro, Vermont 05301, on Wednesday, June 7, 2006. There will be two sessions to accommodate interested parties. The first session will convene at 1:30 p.m. and will continue until 4:30 p.m., as necessary. The second session will convene at 7 p.m. with a repeat of the overview portions of the meeting and will continue until 10 p.m., as necessary. Both meetings will be transcribed and will include: (1) An overview by the NRC staff of the NEPA environmental review process, the proposed scope of the supplement to the GEIS, and the proposed review schedule; and (2) the opportunity for interested government agencies, organizations, and individuals to submit comments or suggestions on the environmental issues or the proposed scope of the supplement to the GEIS. Additionally, the NRC staff will host informal discussions one hour prior to the start of each session at the same location. No formal comments on the proposed scope of the supplement to the GEIS will be accepted during the informal discussions. To be considered, comments must be provided either at the transcribed public meetings or in writing, as discussed below. Persons may register to attend or present oral comments at the meetings on the scope of the NEPA review by contacting the NRC Environmental Project Manager, Mr. Richard L. Emch, Jr., by telephone at 1-800-368-5642, extension 1590, or by e-mail to the NRC at RLE@nrc.gov no later than May 31, 2006. Members of the public may also register to speak at the meeting within 15 minutes of the start

of each session. Individual oral comments may be limited by the time available, depending on the number of persons who register. Members of the public who have not registered may also have an opportunity to speak, if time permits. Public comments will be considered in the scoping process for the supplement to the GEIS. Mr. Emch will need to be contacted no later than May 24, 2006, if special equipment or accommodations are needed to attend or present information at the public meeting, so that the NRC staff can determine whether the request can be accommodated.

In addition to the environmental scoping meeting described above, the NRC will hold an informal open house at the Quality Inn & Suites, 1380 Putney Road, Brattleboro, Vermont 05301, on Tuesday, June 6, 2006, from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m., as necessary. At the open house, NRC staff will be available to provide information about the environmental review process for license renewal of nuclear plants. During the open house, members of the public will have the opportunity to provide formal comments on the proposed scope of the supplement to the GEIS either verbally or in writing to a transcriptionist. Comments provided to the transcriptionist will be considered in the same manner as comments provided during the scoping meetings described above. No formal comments on the proposed scope of the supplement to the GEIS will be accepted at the open house during informal discussions.

Members of the public may send written comments on the environmental scope of the VYNPS license renewal review to: Chief, Rules and Directives Branch, Division of Administrative Services, Office of Administration, Mailstop T-6D59, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC, 20555-0001, and should cite the publication date and page number of this **Federal Register** notice. Comments may also be delivered to the NRC, Room T-6D59, Two White Flint North, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland, 20852, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. during Federal workdays. To be considered in the scoping process, written comments should be postmarked by June 23, 2006. Electronic comments may be sent by e-mail to the NRC at VermontYankeeEIS@nrc.gov, and should be sent no later than June 23, 2006, to be considered in the scoping process. Comments will be available electronically and accessible through ADAMS at <http://adamswebsearch.nrc.gov/dologin.htm>.

Participation in the scoping process for the supplement to the GEIS does not

entitle participants to become parties to the proceeding to which the supplement to the GEIS relates. Notice of opportunity for a hearing regarding the renewal application was the subject of the aforementioned **Federal Register** notice (71 FR 15220). Matters related to participation in any hearing are outside the scope of matters to be discussed at this public meeting.

At the conclusion of the scoping process, the NRC will prepare a concise summary of the determination and conclusions reached, including the significant issues identified, and will send a copy of the summary to each participant in the scoping process. The summary will also be available for inspection in ADAMS at <http://adamswebsearch.nrc.gov/dologin.htm>. The staff will then prepare and issue for comment the draft supplement to the GEIS, which will be the subject of separate notices and separate public meetings. Copies will be available for public inspection at the above-mentioned addresses, and one copy per request will be provided free of charge. After receipt and consideration of the comments, the NRC will prepare a final supplement to the GEIS, which will also be available for public inspection.

Information about the proposed action, the supplement to the GEIS, and the scoping process may be obtained from Mr. Emch at the aforementioned telephone number or e-mail address.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 12th day of April 2006.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Rani Franovich,

*Branch Chief, Environmental Branch B,
Division of License Renewal, Office of Nuclear
Reactor Regulation.*

[FR Doc. E6-6003 Filed 4-20-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Technical Specification Improvement To Revise Diesel Fuel Oil Testing Program Using the Consolidated Line Item Improvement Process

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory
Commission.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the staff of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has prepared a model Application related to changes to the Diesel Fuel Oil Testing Programs. The changes relocate references to specific American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) standards for fuel oil testing to licensee-controlled

documents and adds alternate criteria to the "clear and bright" acceptance test for new fuel oil. The NRC staff has also prepared a model safety evaluation (SE) and no significant hazards consideration (NSHC) determination relating to this matter. The purpose of these models is to permit the NRC to efficiently process amendments that propose to adopt the associated changes into plant-specific technical specifications (TS). Licensees of nuclear power reactors to which the models apply could request amendments confirming the applicability of the SE and NSHC determination to their reactors.

DATES: The NRC staff issued a **Federal Register** Notice (71 FR 9179, February 22, 2006) that provided a model SE and a model NSHC determination relating to changes to the Diesel Fuel Oil Testing Programs. The NRC staff hereby announces that the model SE and NSHC determination may be referenced in plant-specific applications to adopt the changes. The staff has posted a model application on the NRC Web site to assist licensees in using the consolidated line item improvement process (CLIIP) to revise TS Diesel Fuel Oil Testing Programs. The NRC staff can most efficiently consider applications based upon the model application if the application is submitted within one year of this **Federal Register** Notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Peter C. Hearn, Mail Stop: O12H2,
Division of Inspection and Regional
Support, Office of Nuclear Reactor
Regulation, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory
Commission, Washington, DC 20555-
0001, telephone 301-415-1189.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Regulatory Issue Summary 2000-06, "Consolidated Line Item Improvement Process for Adopting Standard Technical Specification Changes for Power Reactors," was issued on March 20, 2000. The CLIIP includes an opportunity for the public to comment on proposed changes to operating licenses, including the technical specifications (TS), after a preliminary assessment by the NRC staff and a finding that the change will likely be offered for adoption by licensees. The CLIIP directs the NRC staff to evaluate any comments received for a proposed generic change to operating licenses and to either reconsider the change or to proceed with announcing the availability of the change for proposed adoption by licensees. Those licensees opting to apply for the subject change to operating licenses are responsible for reviewing the NRC staff's evaluation, referencing the applicable technical justifications, and providing any

necessary plant-specific information. Each amendment application made in response to the notice of availability will be processed and noticed in accordance with applicable rules and NRC procedures. This notice involves changes to the Diesel Fuel Oil Testing Programs.

Applicability: This proposed change to the standard technical specifications (STS) was submitted by the Technical Specifications Task Force (TSTF) in TSTF-374, "Revision to TS 5.5.13 and Associated TS Bases for Diesel Fuel Oil," and is applicable to all nuclear power reactors.

This proposal to modify technical specification requirements by the adoption of TSTF-374 is applicable to all licensees of Combustion Engineering, Babcock & Wilcox, Westinghouse Pressurized Water Reactors, and General Electric Boiling Water Reactors who have adopted or will adopt in conjunction with the change, technical specification requirements for a Bases control program consistent with the TS Bases Control Program described in Section 5.5 of the STS. Licensees that have not adopted requirements for a Bases control program by converting to the improved STS or by other means, are requested to include the requirements for a Bases control program consistent with the STS in their application for the change. The need for a Bases control program stems from the need for adequate regulatory control of some key elements of the proposal that are contained in the Bases upon adoption of TSTF-374. The staff is requesting that the Bases changes be included with the proposed license amendments consistent with the Bases in TSTF-374. To ensure that the overall change, including the Bases, includes appropriate regulatory controls, the staff plans to condition the issuance of each license amendment on the licensee's incorporation of the changes into the Bases document and on requiring the licensee to control the changes in accordance with the Bases Control Program.

To efficiently process the incoming license amendment applications, the NRC staff requests that each license applying for the changes addressed in TSTF-374 use the CLIIP to submit an application that adheres to the following model. Any deviations from the model application should be explained in the licensee's submittal.

The CLIIP does not prevent licensees from requesting an alternate approach or proposing changes other than those proposed in TSTF-374. Variations from the approach recommended in this notice may, however, require additional