

CFR) part 50, Appendix R, sections III.G.3 and III.L.3, for Facility Operating Licenses Nos. DPR-70 and DPR-75, issued to PSEG Nuclear, LLC (the licensee), for operation of the Salem Nuclear Generating Station (Salem), Unit Nos. 1 and 2, located in Salem County, New Jersey. Therefore, as required by 10 CFR 51.21, the NRC is issuing this environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact.

Environmental Assessment

Identification of the Proposed Action

The proposed action would grant an exemption from: (1) The requirements of 10 CFR part 50, Appendix R, section III.G.3, "Fire protection of safe shutdown capability," to the extent that a fixed suppression system must be installed in an area where alternative shutdown capability is provided for Fire Areas 1(2)-FA-AB-64B and 1(2)-FA-AB-84C; (2) the requirements of 10 CFR part 50, Appendix R, section III.L.3, "Alternative and dedicated shutdown capability," to the extent that alternative shutdown capability must accommodate conditions where offsite power is not available for 72 hours in Fire Areas 1(2)-FA-AB-64B and 1(2)-FA-AB-84B; and (3) the requirements of 10 CFR part 50, Appendix R, section III.L.3, relating to the use of separation in an alternate shutdown area for Fire Area 1(2)-FA-AB-84B.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application dated May 1, 2002, as supplemented on August 15, 2002.

The Need for the Proposed Action

The proposed exemption from sections III.G.3 and III.L.3 of 10 CFR part 50, Appendix R, is needed to resolve issues relating to an October 8, 1997, notice of violation whereby PSEG failed to adequately qualify the Kaowool, FS-195 and Interam E-50 electrical raceway fire barrier systems (ERFBSs) installed at Salem. Resolution of these issues include: (1) A re-analysis of post-fire safe shutdown capability; (2) plant modifications to provide alternative safe shutdown capability through cross-tie connections between the Salem, Unit Nos. 1 and 2, Chemical and Volume Control Systems; and (3) superceding current exemptions applicable to Fire Areas 1(2)-FA-AB-64B, 1(2)-FA-AB-84B and 1(2)-FA-AB-84C with the proposed exemptions.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

The NRC has completed its evaluation of the proposed action and concludes that the proposed exemption does not

involve radioactive wastes, release of radioactive material into the atmosphere, solid radioactive waste, or liquid effluents released to the environment.

The proposed action will not significantly increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types of 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 have a potential to affect 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.

Environmental Impacts of the 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

The action does not involve the use of any different resources than those previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement related to operation of Salem Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1 and 2, dated April 1973.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

On March 26, 2003, the staff consulted with the New Jersey State official, Mr. Dennis Zannoni of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, 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 letter dated May 1, 2002, and supplement dated August 15, 2002. Documents may be examined, and/or copied for a fee, at the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR), located at One White Flint North, Public File Area O1 F21, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland. Publicly available records will be accessible electronically from the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Public Electronic Reading Room on the Internet at the NRC Web site, <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. 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 to pdr@nrc.gov.

Dated in Rockville, Maryland, this 22nd day of April, 2003.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

James W. Clifford,

Chief, Section 2, Project Directorate I, Division of Licensing Project Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

DATES: Weeks of April 28, May 5, 12, 19, 26, June 2, 2003.

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

STATUS: Public and Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

Week of April 28, 2003

There are no meetings scheduled for the Week of April 28, 2003

Week of May 5, 2003—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the Week of May 5, 2003

Week of May 12, 2003—Tentative

Wednesday, May 14, 2003
1:30 p.m. Discussion of Security Issues (Closed—Ex. 1)

Thursday, May 15, 2003
9:30 a.m. Briefing on Results of Agency Action Review Meeting (Public Meeting) (Contact: Robert Pascarelli, 301-415-1245). Morning session.

12:30 p.m. Briefing on Results of

Agency Action Review Meeting (Public Meeting) (Contact: Robert Pascarelli, 301-415-1245). Afternoon session.

This meeting will be webcast live at the Web address—<http://www.nrc.gov>

Week of May 19, 2003—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the Week of May 19, 2003

Week of May 26, 2003—Tentative

Wednesday, May 28, 2003

9:30 a.m. Meeting with Advisory Committee on the Medical Uses of Isotopes (ACMUI) (Public Meeting) (Contact: Angela Williamson, 301-415-5030)

This meeting will be webcast live at the Web address—<http://www.nrc.gov>

2:45 p.m. Discussion of Management Issues (Closed—Ex. 2)

Thursday, May 29, 2003

9:30 a.m. Briefing on Status of Revisions to the Regulatory Framework for Steam Generator Tube Integrity (Public Meeting) (Contact: Louise Lund, 301-415-3248)

This meeting will be webcast live at the Web address—<http://www.nrc.gov>

2 p.m. Briefing on Equal Employment Opportunity Program (Public Meeting) (Contact: Corenthis Kelley, 301-415-7380)

Week of June 2, 2003—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the Week of June 2, 2003.

* 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: David Louis Gamberoni (301) 415-1651.

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The NRC Commission Meeting Schedule can be found on the Internet at: <http://www.nrc.gov/what-we-do/policy-making/schedule.html>

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This notice is distributed by mail to several hundred subscribers; if you no longer wish to receive it, or would like to be added to the distribution, please contact the Office of the Secretary, Washington, DC 20555 (301-415-1969). In addition, distribution of this meeting notice over the Internet system is available. If you are interested in receiving this Commission meeting schedule electronically, please send an electronic message to dkw@nrc.gov.

Dated: April 24, 2003.

D.L. Gamberoni,

Technical Coordinator, Office of the Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-10608 Filed 4-25-03; 10:33 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Biweekly Notice; Applications and Amendments to Facility Operating Licenses Involving No Significant Hazards Considerations

I. Background

Pursuant to Public Law 97-415, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission or NRC staff) is publishing this regular biweekly notice. Public Law 97-415 revised section 189 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), to require the Commission to publish notice of any amendments issued, or proposed to be issued, under a new provision of section 189 of the Act. This provision grants the Commission the authority to issue and make immediately effective any amendment to an operating license upon a determination by the Commission that such amendment involves no significant hazards consideration, notwithstanding the pendency before the Commission of a request for a hearing from any person.

This biweekly notice includes all notices of amendments issued, or proposed to be issued from April 18, 2003, through May 1, 2003. The last biweekly notice was published on April 15, 2003, (68 FR 18269).

Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendments to Facility Operating Licenses, Proposed No Significant Hazards Consideration Determination, and Opportunity for a Hearing

The Commission has made a proposed determination that the following amendment requests involve no significant hazards consideration. Under the Commission's regulations in 10 CFR 50.92, this means that operation of the facility in accordance with the proposed amendment would not (1) involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated; or (2) create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated; or (3) involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety. The basis for this proposed determination for each amendment request is shown below.

The Commission is seeking public comments on this proposed determination. Any comments received within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice will be considered in making any final determination.

Normally, the Commission will not issue the amendment until the expiration of the 30-day notice period.

However, should circumstances change during the notice period such that failure to act in a timely way would result, for example, in derating or shutdown of the facility, the Commission may issue the license amendment before the expiration of the 30-day notice period, provided that its final determination is that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration. The final determination will consider all public and State comments received before action is taken. Should the Commission take this action, it will publish in the **Federal Register** a notice of issuance and provide for opportunity for a hearing after issuance. The Commission expects that the need to take this action will occur very infrequently.

Written comments may be submitted by mail to the Chief, Rules and Directives Branch, Division of Administrative Services, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, and should cite the publication date and page number of this **Federal Register** notice. Written comments may also be delivered to Room 6D22, Two White Flint North, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Federal workdays. Copies of written comments received may be examined at the Commission's Public Document Room (PDR), located at One White Flint North, Public File Area 01F21, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland. The filing of requests for a hearing and petitions for leave to intervene is discussed below.

By May 29, 2003, the licensee may file a request for a hearing with respect to issuance of the amendment to the subject facility operating license and any person whose interest may be affected by this proceeding and who wishes to participate as a party in the proceeding must file a written request for a hearing and a petition for leave to intervene. Requests for a hearing and a petition for leave to intervene shall be filed in accordance with the Commission's "Rules of Practice for Domestic Licensing Proceedings" in 10 CFR part 2. Interested persons should consult a current copy of 10 CFR 2.714, which is available at the Commission's PDR, located at One White Flint North, Public File Area 01F21, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland. Publicly available records will be accessible from the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System's (ADAMS) Public Electronic Reading Room on the Internet at the NRC Web site, <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/cfr/>. If a request for a hearing or petition for