

800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday. You also may obtain a copy of the data collection instrument and instructions from Ms. Plimpton.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title of Collection:* NSF Surveys to Measure Customer Service Satisfaction.

*OMB Number:* 3145-0157.

*Expiration Date of Approval:* June 30, 2008.

*Type of Request:* Intent to seek approval to renew an information collection.

*Abstract:*

*Proposed Project:* On September 11, 1993, President Clinton issued Executive Order 12862, "Setting Customer Service Standards," which calls for Federal agencies to provide service that matches or exceeds the best service available in the private sector. Section 1(b) of that order requires agencies to "survey customers to determine the kind and quality of services they want and their level of satisfaction with existing services." The National Science Foundation (NSF) has an ongoing need to collect information from its customer community (primarily individuals and organizations engaged in science and engineering research and education) about the quality and kind of services it provides and use that information to help improve agency operations and services.

*Estimate of Burden:* The burden on the public will change according to the needs of each individual customer satisfaction survey; however, each survey is estimated to take approximately 30 minutes per response.

*Respondents:* Will vary among individuals or households; business or other for-profit; not-for-profit institutions; farms; federal government; state, local or tribal governments.

*Estimated Number of Responses per Survey:* This will vary by survey.

*Comments:* Comments are invited on (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological

collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Dated: January 15, 2008.

**Suzanne H. Plimpton,**

*Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.*

[FR Doc. 08-188 Filed 1-18-08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7555-01-M**

**NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

[Docket No. 50-133]

**Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact Related to Issuance of Exemption for the Humboldt Bay Power Plant Unit 3 License DPR-007, Humboldt, CA**

**AGENCY:** U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** John Hickman, Division of Waste Management and Environmental Protection, Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, *Mail Stop:* T8F5, Washington, DC 20555-0001. *Telephone:* (301) 415-3017; *e-mail:* [jbh@nrc.gov](mailto:jbh@nrc.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Introduction**

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff is considering a request dated October 30, 2007, by the Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E or the Licensee), to approve a request for exemption from the values of the Inhalation Annual Limits on Intake (ALIs) and Derived Air Concentrations (DACs) that appear in 10 CFR Part 20, Appendix B, Table 1, for use at Humboldt Bay Power Plant, Unit 3 (HBPP). PG&E proposes replacing the 10 CFR Part 20, Appendix B, Table 1 ALI and DAC values, derived using previous (1977) recommendations of the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP), with ALI and DAC values derived using more recent (1995) ICRP recommendations.

This Environmental Assessment (EA) has been developed in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 51.21.

**II. Environmental Assessment**

*Background*

HBPP was permanently shut down in July 1976, and until recently was in safe storage condition (SAFSTOR). SAFSTOR is defined as a method of

decommissioning in which the nuclear facility is placed and maintained in safe condition for an extended period of time to permit radioactive material to decay to levels that facilitate subsequent decontamination and decommissioning of the facility. A Decommissioning Plan was approved in July 1988. Subsequent to the 1997 decommissioning rule, the licensee converted its decommissioning plan into its Defueled Safety Analysis Report which is updated every two years. A Post Shutdown Decommissioning Activities Report was issued by the licensee in February 1998. In December 2003, PG&E formally submitted a license application to the NRC for approval of a dry-cask Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI) at the Humboldt Bay site. A preliminary license and safety evaluation report for the Humboldt Bay ISFSI was issued on August 24, 2005. The ISFSI is currently under construction and the licensee is now engaged in some incremental decommissioning activities.

Fuel failures occurred at HBPP in the past when the reactor was operating, resulting in contamination from alpha emitters which pose an inhalation hazard to workers. The inhalation of airborne radioactive materials in restricted areas poses a potential internal radiation hazard and the NRC regulations in 10 CFR Part 20 require licensees to assess these radiation hazards and to implement protective measures to minimize that hazard to workers, the public and the environment. These actions and measures include air sampling, posting airborne radioactivity area warning signs, the use of respiratory protection, and bioassay monitoring of workers. These actions and measures are triggered when air concentrations in the workplace reach specified fractions of the DAC values in 10 CFR Part 20, Appendix B.

*Proposed Action*

HBPP has requested that NRC allow an exemption under 10 CFR 20.2301 to allow the use of DAC and ALI values calculated using ICRP-68, "Dose Coefficients for Intake of Radionuclides by Workers," (Ref. 3) dose coefficients and parameters instead of the DAC and ALI values in 10 CFR Part 20, Appendix B, Table 1, Occupational Values. HBPP believes that this change will result in greater worker efficiency in decommissioning work activities and should result in an overall reduction in worker dose. The ICRP 68 parameters used in calculating DAC and ALI values are generally accepted as more representative models of the actual

physical and biological mechanisms involved in the inhalation and deposition of aerosols in the human body. The Department of Energy (DOE) adopted the ICRP-68 recommendations for DAC and ALI values in a revision to 10 CFR Part 835, Occupational Radiation Protection, earlier this year (Ref. 4). Also, the Commission has indicated in Staff Requirements Memoranda for SECY-01-148 (Ref. 5) and SECY-99-077 (Ref. 6) that the NRC staff should consider and approve, as appropriate, licensee requests to use more recent ICRP radiation protection recommendations on a case-by-case basis. The licensee states that the exemption is allowed by NRC regulations and will not result in any new or increased hazard to life of property.

#### *Need for Proposed Action*

To protect plant workers from doses due to inhalation of alpha emitters, the HBPP internal exposure control program requires the use of respirators when performing certain activities. Using a respirator reduces worker efficiency and requires workers to remain in radiation areas longer than if respirators were not used. By remaining in a radiation area longer than necessary, workers receive higher external doses due to gamma radiation. At the present time, plant workers are actively performing preparatory decommissioning activities that are scheduled to increase in mid-2008 after spent nuclear fuel assemblies and fuel fragment containers are transferred from the spent fuel pool to the ISFSI.

### **III. Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action**

#### *Radiological Impacts*

The DAC and ALI values in 10 CFR Part 20, Appendix B, Table 1, were calculated using ICRP 26 and ICRP 30 radiation dosimetry methodology. This methodology was adopted by the ICRP in 1977 and 1978, respectively. The ICRP has continued to update and revise its dosimetric models and input parameters as new information became available. The current ICRP basic radiation protection recommendations are in ICRP 60 which was adopted in 1991. HBPP proposes to use the dose coefficients for intake of radionuclides by workers in ICRP-68 which were adopted for use by ICRP in 1995.

The differences in the values between the current NRC DAC values and values for most radionuclides using more recent ICRP methodology are generally two-fold or less. However, the difference between some radionuclides is larger—

especially for uranium and some of the transuranic radionuclides. HBPP has provided a comparison of inhalation ALIs for these radionuclides. ICRP-68 inhalation ALI values are greater than ICRP-30 values by a factor of 4.9 for U-235; 6.1 for Pu-238; 2.0 for Am-241; and 5.0 for Np-237.

Engineering controls are the preferred method to control airborne radioactive materials, but this is more difficult to implement for the changing conditions in decommissioning activities than during routine operations. The use of ICRP-68 dose coefficients and parameters to develop DAC and ALI values should result in less conservative values than those currently in 10 CFR Part 20. This should reduce the reliance on respirators to prevent the inhalation of airborne radioactivity by workers, and this should improve worker's ability to better identify and avoid industrial safety hazards and also should reduce physical stresses on workers. The reduced reliance on respirators will also allow workers to perform activities in radiation areas more efficiently, reducing external radiation dose due to gamma rays, and resulting in reduced overall dose received. Therefore, PG&E's request for an exemption under 10 CFR Part 20.2301 is acceptable because it gives its workers equivalent radiological protection as required by 10 CFR Part 20.

#### *Non-Radiological Impacts*

The NRC has determined that there are no adverse non-radiological impacts associated with the proposed action.

#### *Cumulative Impacts*

The NRC has determined that there are no adverse cumulative impacts associated with this proposed action.

#### *Alternatives to the Proposed Action*

The alternative to considering the exemption request for approval is to deny the request. The alternative was rejected by NRC because the impacts on workers, the public and the environment were not adversely affected by the requested action. The use of ICRP 68 recommendations to calculate DAC and ALI values should reduce potential industrial safety hazards to workers by lessening reliance on respirators and will not increase any hazards to the public or the environment.

#### *Agencies and Persons Consulted*

The NRC contacted the California Radiologic Health Branch in the State Department of Health Services concerning this request. There were no

comments, concerns or objections from the state official.

NRC staff determined that the proposed action is not a major decommissioning activity and will not affect listed or proposed endangered species, nor critical habitat. Therefore, no further consultation is required under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. Likewise, NRC staff determined that the proposed action is not the type of activity that has the potential to cause previously unconsidered effects on historic properties, as consultation for site decommissioning has been conducted previously. There are no additional impacts to historic properties associated with the disposal method and location for demolition debris. Therefore, no consultation is required under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

### **IV. 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 that preparation of an environmental impact statement is not warranted for the proposed action.

### **V. Further Information**

For further information with respect to the proposed action, see the following documents:

1. J. S. Keenan, Pacific Gas and Electric Company, letter to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, "Exemption Request From 10 CFR 20 Appendix B, Table 1 Values," October 30, 2007. (ML073060034)
2. U.S. Code of Federal Regulation, "Standards for Protection Against Radiation," Part 20, Chapter 1, Title 10, Energy.
3. International Commission on Radiological Protection Publication 68, Dose Coefficients for Intakes of Radionuclides by Workers, published July, 1994 (ISBN 0 08 042651 4). This document is available from Elsevier Science Inc., Tarrytown, NY.
4. **Federal Register** Notice, Friday, June 8, 2007 (FR Vol. 72, No.110, Pages 31904—31941), DOE Final Rule for the adoption of current ICRP methodology for DAC and ALI values in 10 CFR 835, Occupational Radiation Protection.
5. SR-SECY-01-148, Staff Requirements—SECY-01-0148—Processes for Revision of 10 CFR Part 20 Regarding Adoption of ICRP Recommendations on Occupational Dose Limits and Dosimetric Models and Parameters, April 12, 2002. (ML011580363)

6. SR-SECY-99-077, Staff Requirements—SECY-99-0077—To Request Commission Approval to Grant Exemptions From Portions of 10 CFR Part 20, April 21, 1999. (ML042750086)

The NRC Public Documents Room is located at NRC Headquarters in Rockville, MD, and can be contacted at (800) 397-4209. Documents may be examined, and/or copied for a fee, at the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR), located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland. Publicly available records will be accessible electronically from the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System's (ADAMS) Public Library component on the NRC Web site, <http://www.nrc.gov> (the Public Electronic Reading Room). Persons who do not have access to ADAMS or who encounter problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS should contact the NRC PDR Reference staff by telephone at 1-800-397-4209, or 301-415-4737, or by e-mail at [pdr@nrc.gov](mailto:pdr@nrc.gov).

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 15th day of January, 2008.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Keith I. McConnell,**

*Deputy Director, Decommissioning and Uranium Recovery Licensing Directorate, Division of Waste Management and Environmental Protection, Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs.*

[FR Doc. E8-987 Filed 1-18-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-373]

### Exelon Generation Company, LLC; Notice of Withdrawal of Application for Amendment to Facility Operating License

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has granted the request of Exelon Generation Company, LLC (the licensee), to withdraw its June 18, 2007, application for proposed amendment, as supplemented by letter dated September 7, 2007, to Facility Operating License No. NPF-11, for the LaSalle County Station (LSCS), Unit 1, located in Will County.

The proposed amendment would have revised the facility Technical Specification 5.5.13 pertaining to primary containment leakage rate testing, to reflect a one-time extension of the LSCS, Unit 1 primary containment Type A Integrated Leak Rate Test date from the current requirement of no later than June 13, 2009, to prior to startup

following the thirteenth LSCS refueling outage for Unit 1.

The Commission had previously issued a Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment published in the **Federal Register** on July 31, 2007 (72 FR 41784). However, by letter dated October 12, 2007, the licensee withdrew the proposed change.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated June 18, 2007, as supplemented by letter dated September 7, 2007, and the licensee's letter dated October 12, 2007, which withdrew the application for license amendment. 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 Systems (ADAMS) Public Electronic Reading Room on the Internet at the NRC Web site, <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm.html>. Persons who do not have access to ADAMS or who encounter problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS should contact the NRC PDR Reference staff by telephone at 1-800-397-4209, or 301-415-4737 or by e-mail to [pdr@nrc.gov](mailto:pdr@nrc.gov).

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 14th day of January, 2008.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Stephen P. Sands,**

*Project Manager, Plant Licensing Branch III-2, Division of Operating Reactor Licensing, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*

[FR Doc. E8-988 Filed 1-18-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

## OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

### January 2008 Pay Adjustments

**AGENCY:** U.S. Office of Personnel Management.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The President adjusted the rates of basic pay and locality payments for certain categories of Federal employees effective in January 2008. This notice documents those pay adjustments for the public record.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Carey Johnston, Center for Pay and Leave Administration, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, U.S. Office of Personnel Management; (202) 606-2858; FAX (202) 606-0824; or e-mail to [pay-performance-policy@opm.gov](mailto:pay-performance-policy@opm.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On January 4, 2008, the President signed Executive Order 13454 (73 FR 1481), which implemented the January 2008 pay adjustments. The President made these adjustments consistent with Public Law 110-161, December 26, 2007, which authorized an overall average pay increase of 3.5 percent for the "statutory pay systems," including the General Schedule (GS).

Schedule 1 of Executive Order 13454 provides the rates for the 2008 General Schedule and reflects a 2.5 percent across-the-board increase. Executive Order 13454 also includes the percentage amounts of the 2008 locality payments. (See Section 5 and Schedule 9 of Executive Order 13454.)

The publication of this notice satisfies the requirement in section 5(b) of Executive Order 13454 that the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) publish appropriate notice of the 2008 locality payments in the **Federal Register**.

GS employees receive locality payments under 5 U.S.C. 5304. Locality payments apply in the continental United States (as defined in 5 CFR 531.602 to include the several States and the District of Columbia, but not Alaska or Hawaii). In 2008, locality payments ranging from 13.18 percent to 32.53 percent apply to GS employees in 32 locality pay areas. (The 2008 locality pay areas definitions can be found at <http://www.opm.gov/oca/08tables/locdef.asp>.) These 2008 locality pay percentages, which replaced the 2007 locality pay percentages, became effective on the first day of the first pay period beginning on or after January 1, 2008 (January 6, 2008). An employee's locality rate of pay is computed by increasing his or her scheduled annual rate of pay (as defined in 5 CFR 531.602) by the applicable locality pay percentage. (See 5 CFR 531.604 and 531.609.)

Executive Order 13454 establishes the new Executive Schedule, which incorporates a 2.5 percent increase required under 5 U.S.C. 5318 (rounded to the nearest \$100). By law, Executive Schedule officials are not authorized to receive locality payments.

Executive Order 13454 establishes the range of rates of basic pay for senior executives in the Senior Executive Service (SES), as established pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 5382. The minimum rate of basic pay for the SES may not be less than the minimum rate payable under 5 U.S.C. 5376 for senior-level positions (\$114,468 in 2008). The maximum rate of the SES rate range is level II of the Executive Schedule (\$172,200 in 2008) for SES members covered by a certified