

Date and Time: Tuesday, January 30—Thursday, February 2, 1995; 8:30 AM–5:00 PM.

Place: Rooms 310, 320 (T-W), 340 and 360 (T-W), Stafford Place, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230.

Type of Meeting: Closed.

Contact Person: Dr. Michael R. Reeve, Section Head, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230. Telephone: (703) 306-1582.

Purpose of Meeting: To provide advice and recommendations concerning proposals submitted to NSF for financial support.

Agenda: To review and evaluate Ocean Sciences Research (OSRS) proposals as part of the selection process for awards.

Reason for Closing: The proposals being reviewed include information of a proprietary or confidential nature, including technical information; financial data, such as salaries; and personal information concerning individuals associated with the proposals. These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c), (4) and (6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act.

Dated: January 9, 1995.

Linda Allen-Benton,

Deputy Division Director, HRM.

[FR Doc. 95-870 Filed 1-12-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

Special Emphasis Panel in Information, Robotics and Intelligent Systems; Meeting

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

Name: Special Emphasis Panel in Information, Robotics and Intelligent Systems.

Date and Time: February 3, 1995, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Place: NSF, 4201 Wilson Blvd., room 310, Arlington, VA 22230.

Type of Meeting: Closed.

Contact Person: Dr. Howard Moraff, Acting Deputy Division Director, Robotics and Intelligence, Room 1115, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230. Telephone: (703) 306-1928.

Purpose of Meeting: To provide advice and recommendations concerning proposals submitted to NSF for financial support.

Agenda: To review and evaluate Information Technology & Organizations proposals as part of the selection process for awards.

Reason for Closing: The proposals being reviewed include information of a proprietary or confidential nature, including technical information; financial data, such as salaries; and personal information concerning individuals associated with the proposals. These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c), (4) and (6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act.

Dated: January 9, 1995.

Linda Allen-Benton,

Deputy Division Director, HRM.

[FR Doc. 95-879 Filed 1-12-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

Special Emphasis Panel in Materials Research; Meeting

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

Name: Special Emphasis Panel in Materials Research.

Date and time: January 31, 1995, 8:30 am–5:00 pm.

Place: National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Rooms 1020 and 1060, Arlington, VA 22230.

Type of meeting: Closed.

Contact person: Dr. Lorretta J. Inglehart, Program Director, Instrumentation for Materials Research Program, Division of Materials Research, Room 1065, National Science Foundation, Arlington, VA 22230, Telephone (703) 306-1817.

Purpose of meeting: To provide advice and recommendations concerning support for Instrumentation Proposals.

Agenda: Evaluation of proposals.

Reason for closing: The proposals being reviewed include information of a proprietary or confidential nature, including technical information, financial data such as salaries, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the proposals. These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552b.(c) (4) and (6) of the Government in Sunshine Act.

Dated: January 9, 1995.

Linda Allen-Benton,

Deputy Division Director, HRM.

[FR Doc. 95-869 Filed 1-12-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

Special Emphasis Panel in Mechanical and Structural Systems; Notice of Meeting

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

Name: Special Emphasis Panel in Civil and Mechanical Systems.

Date and time: February 2, 1995, (9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Place: National Science Foundation, Room 530, Arlington, VA 22230.

Notice of Meeting: Closed.

Contact Person: Dr. Jorn Larsen-Basse, Program Director, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230, Telephone (703) 306-1360.

Purpose of meeting: To provide advice and recommendations concerning proposals submitted to NSF for financial support.

Agenda: Review and evaluate Civil and Mechanical Systems NSF IIA proposals.

Reason for closing: The proposals being reviewed include information of a proprietary or confidential nature, including technical information, financial data, such as salaries, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the proposals. These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552b. (c) (4) and (6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act.

Dated: January 9, 1995.

Linda Allen-Benton,

Deputy Division Director, HRM.

[FR Doc. 95-874 Filed 1-12-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

Special Emphasis Panel in Microelectronic Information Processing Systems

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

Name: Special Emphasis Panel in Microelectronic Information Processing Systems #1206.

Date and Time: January 30, 1995 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Place: National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230, Conference Rooms: 310, 320, 340, 360, 370.

Type of Meeting: Closed.

Contact Person: Dr. Michael Foster, Program Director, Experimental Systems Program Microelectronic Information Processing Systems Division, National Science Foundation, Room 1155 Telephone No.: 703-306-1936.

Purpose of Meeting: To provide advice and recommendations concerning proposals submitted to NSF for financial support.

Agenda: To review and evaluate FY 95 Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) proposals in the Microelectronic Information Processing Systems area of research.

Reason for Closing: The proposals being reviewed include information of a proprietary or confidential nature including technical information; financial data such as salaries; and personal information concerning individuals associated with the proposals. These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552 b.(c) (4) and (6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act.

Dated: January 9, 1995.

Linda Allen-Benton,

Deputy Division Director, HRM.

[FR Doc. 95-880 Filed 1-12-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

**NUCLEAR REGULATORY
COMMISSION**

[Docket No. 50-237]

**Commonwealth Edison Company;
Dresden Nuclear Power Station, Unit 2;
Environmental Assessment and
Finding of No Significant Impact**

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of a schedular exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR Part 50 to Commonwealth Edison Company (ComEd, the licensee) for the Dresden Nuclear Power Station, Unit 2, located in Grundy County, Illinois.

Environmental Assessment*Identification of Proposed Action*

The proposed action would grant a one-time schedular exemption from the requirements of Sections III.D.2(a) and III.D.3 (Type B and Type C tests, respectively) of Appendix J to 10 CFR Part 50 relating to the primary reactor containment leakage testing for water-cooled reactors. The purpose of the tests is to assure that leakage through primary reactor containment shall not exceed allowable leakage rate values as specified in the Technical Specifications and that periodic surveillance is performed.

Need for the Proposed Action

By letter dated November 23, 1994, the licensee requested, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.12(a), a one-time schedular exemption for Dresden, Unit 2, from the local leak rate test intervals for certain Type B and C leak rate tests required by 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix J, Sections III.D.2(a) and III.D.3. The exemption is requested to support the current outage schedule and to avoid the potential for an earlier reactor shutdown. If a forced outage is imposed to perform testing, it would present undue hardship and cost in the form of increased radiological exposure. Furthermore, if a forced outage is imposed to perform the required testing, an additional plant shutdown and startup will be required. In order to rectify these concerns, ComEd proposes to reschedule the Dresden, Unit 2, refuel outage from September 1994 to July 16, 1995. Increasing the interval between refueling outages will cause Dresden, Unit 2, to exceed the Type B and C leak rate testing surveillance intervals required for Type B and C leak rate tests which cannot be performed during reactor operation.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

The proposed action includes exemptions from performing certain Type B and C tests for a maximum period of 180 days beyond the required Appendix J test intervals. As stated in 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix J, the purpose of the primary containment leak rate testing requirements is to ensure that leakage rates are maintained within the Technical Specification requirements and to assure that proper maintenance and repair is performed throughout the service life of the containment boundary components. The requested exemption is consistent with the intent of 10 CFR 50.12(a), in that it represents a one-time only schedular extension of short duration. The required leak tests will still be performed to assess compliance with Technical Specification requirements, albeit later, and to assure that any required maintenance or repair is performed. As noted in Sections III.D.2(a) and III.D.3 of Appendix J, it was intended that the testing be performed during refueling outages or other convenient intervals. Extending the Appendix J intervals by a small amount to reach the next refueling outage will not significantly impact the integrity of the containment boundary, and therefore, will not significantly impact the consequences of an accident or transient in the unlikely event of such an occurrence during the 180-day extended period.

The exemption request is further supported by the information provided in the application. ComEd has identified those Type B and C volumes which will be leak tested during reactor operation. In addition, ComEd has identified those volumes that will be leak tested should a forced outage of suitable duration occur prior to July 16, 1994 (180-day maximum exemption request). These commitments reduce the number of volumes which need an exemption and the length of time for which an exemption would be required should a forced outage of sufficient duration occur. ComEd has also provided the testing methodology which will be used if forced outages occur. In order to provide an added margin of safety and to account for possible increases in the leakage rates of untested volumes during the relatively short period of the exemption, Dresden will impose an administrative limit for maximum pathway leakage of 80 percent of 0.6L_a for the remaining Unit 2 fuel cycle.

Past Unit 2 local leak rate test data have, in general, demonstrated good leak rate test results. The current maximum pathway leakage rate for

Dresden, Unit 2, as determined through Type B and C leak rate testing is 309.46 standard cubic feet per hour (scfh). This value is approximately 63 percent of the Technical Specification limit of 488.45 scfh (0.6L_a). In addition, the previous outage "as left" total minimum pathway leakage rate for Type B and C testable penetrations was 173.25 scfh. This value is approximately 28 percent of the Technical Specification limit of 610.56 scfh (0.75L_a). By using the minimum pathway methodology, a conservative measurement of the actual leakage expected through a pathway under post-accident conditions can be determined. Based on the methodology, the low "as left" leakage value, and the previous local leak rate test data, it is clear that extending the test interval a maximum of 180 days for certain volumes will not affect the overall integrity of the containment.

The previous outage "as left" Integrated Leak Rate Test, completed on May 14, 1993, indicated that the primary containment overall integrated leakage rate, which obtains the summation of all potential leakage paths including containment welds, valves, fittings, and penetrations, was 493.36 scfh. This value is approximately 80.8 percent of the limit specified in the Technical Specifications.

The above data, along with the station-imposed limit for maximum pathway leakage, provide a basis for showing that the probability of exceeding the offsite dose rates established in 10 CFR Part 100 will not be increased by extending the current Type B and C testing intervals for a maximum of 180 days. The proposed exemption does not affect plant nonradiological effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes there are no measurable environmental impacts associated with the proposed exemption.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action

Since the Commission has concluded there is no measurable environmental impact associated with the proposed exemption, any alternative with equal or greater environmental impact need not be evaluated. The principal alternative to the exemption would be to require rigid compliance with the requirements of Sections III.D.2(a) and III.D.3 of Appendix J to 10 CFR Part 50. Such action would not enhance the protection of the environment and would result in increased radiation exposure for the licensee.

Alternate Use of Resources

This action does not involve the use of any resources not considered previously in the Final Environmental Statements for Dresden, Units 2 and 3, dated November 1973.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

The staff consulted with the State of Illinois regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. The State had no comments.

Finding of No Significant Impact

The Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed exemption.

Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, the NRC staff concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

For further details with respect to this Action, see the Licensee's request for exemption dated November 23, 1994, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, The Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., and at the Morris Public Library, 604 Liberty Street, Morris, Illinois 60451.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 9th day of January 1995.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
John F. Stang,

*Acting Director, Project Directorate III-2,
Division of Reactor Projects—III/IV Office of
Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*

[FR Doc. 95-919 Filed 1-12-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-M

[Docket No. 50-387]

Pennsylvania Power & Light Co., Allegheny Electric Cooperative, Inc., Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Unit 1; Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. NPF-14, issued to Pennsylvania Power and Light Company (PP&L, the licensee), for operation of the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Unit 1, located in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania.

Environmental Assessment

Identification of Proposed Action

This environmental assessment has been prepared to address potential environmental issues related to the licensee's application of July 27, 1994, as supplemented September 16, October 27, and November 17, 1994, to amend the Susquehanna, Unit 1 operating

license. The letter of February 7, 1994, provided responses to the staff's questions regarding this action. The proposed amendment would increase the licensed core thermal power from 3293 MWt to 3441 MWt, which represents an approximate increase of 4.5% over the current licensed power level.

The proposed action involves NRC issuance of a license amendment to uprate the authorized power level by changing the operating license, including Appendix A of the license (Technical Specifications). No change is needed to Appendix B of the license (Environmental Protection Plan—Non-radiological).

The Need for the Proposed Action

The proposed action is needed to permit an increase in the licensed core thermal power from 3293 MWt to 3441 MWt and provide the licensee with the flexibility to increase the potential electrical output of Susquehanna, Unit 1, providing additional electrical power to service domestic and commercial areas of the Pennsylvania Power and Light (PP&L) Company and Allegheny Electric Cooperative, Inc. grid.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

The "Final Environmental Statement (FES) related to operation of Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Units 1 and 2" was issued June 1981 (NUREG-0564). By letter of June 15, 1992, the licensee submitted "Licensing Topical Report NE-092-001 for Power Uprate with Increased Core Flow" for Susquehanna Steam Electric Station (SSES), Units 1 and 2. The report was submitted to support future proposed amendments to Units 1 and 2 licenses to permit up to a 4.5-percent increase in reactor thermal power and an 8-percent increase in core flow for each unit. The NRC approved the topical report by letter of November 30, 1993. The licensee submitted a proposed amendment to implement power uprate for Unit 2 by a letter of November 24, 1993, which was addressed in an environmental assessment issued by the staff on March 11, 1994. The amendment for power uprate and increased core flow for Unit 2 was issued on April 11, 1994. The subject of this assessment is the power uprate and increased core flow for Unit 1.

Section II.4 of the above Topical Report provided an environmental assessment of the proposed power uprate, including projected non-radiological environmental effects and radiological effects from postulated accidents.

Sections 8.1, 8.2, and 8.3 of the Topical Report discussed the potential effect of power uprate on the liquid, gaseous, and solid radwaste systems. Sections 8.4, 8.5, and 8.6 discussed the potential effect of power uprate on radiation sources within the plant and radiation levels from normal and post-accident operation. Section 9.2 of the Topical Report presented the results of the calculated whole body and thyroid doses at uprated power versus current authorized power conditions at the exclusion area boundary and the low population zone (LPZ) that might result from the postulated design basis radiological accidents [i.e., loss-of-coolant accident (LOCA), main steam line break accident (MSLBA) outside containment, fuel handling accident (FHA) and control rod drop accident (CRDA)]. Other accidents (non-LOCA) that were previously analyzed in the licensee's Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR) were also reassessed. All off-site radiological doses remain well below established regulatory limits for power uprate operation.

Supplemental information related to the non-radiological environmental assessment was also presented in the licensee's letter of February 7, 1994.

The licensee summarized their reassessment of potential radiological and non-radiological impacts of station operation at a slightly higher power level as follows:

Non-Radiological Environmental Assessment

Since power uprate will not significantly change the methods of generating electricity, nor of handling any influents from the environment or effluents to it, no new or different environmental impacts are expected. The conservative models and methods used in the environmental assessments of the original design, confirmed by studies conducted during actual operation, show that more than adequate margin exists for the proposed power uprate without exceeding the non-radiological environmental effects estimated in the original estimates and analyses and cited in the original permit applications and impact statements.

The maximum withdrawal rate from the river will increase from the current value of 38,800 gpm to 40,700 gpm after power uprate, an increase of 5%. The maximum blowdown rate will increase from the current value of 10,300 gpm to 10,800 gpm, an increase of 5%.

After reviewing the additional water withdrawal requirements and increased blowdown rate from the natural draft cooling towers at the Susquehanna SES (SSES) associated with power uprate, PP&L determined that there will be no adverse effects to the river flow or river biota. This conclusion is based on two factors. First, the