

Final Environmental Impact Statement for disposal of reactor plants from U.S. Navy nuclear-powered cruisers, OHIO Class submarines and LOS ANGELES Class submarines. The Department of Energy has participated as a cooperating agency and has adopted the Environmental Impact Statement to fulfill its environmental review obligations under NEPA.

Requests for copies of the document and requests for further information should be directed to Mr. John Gordon (Code 1160), Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, 1400 Farragut Avenue, Bremerton, Washington 98314-5001, telephone (360)476-7111.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Final Environmental Impact Statement analyzes the alternative ways for disposing of decommissioned, defueled, reactor compartments from U.S. Navy nuclear-powered cruisers (BAINBRIDGE, TRUXTUN, LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA Class and VIRGINIA Class) and submarines (LOS ANGELES Class and OHIO Class). A disposal method for the defueled reactor compartments is needed when the cost of continued operation is not justified by the ship's military capability or when the ships are no longer needed. After a determination is made that a nuclear-powered ship is no longer needed, the ship can be: (1) placed in protective storage for an extended period followed by permanent disposal or recycling; or (2) prepared for permanent disposal or recycling.

The alternatives examined in detail in the Final Environmental Impact Statement are the preferred alternative—land burial of the entire reactor compartment at the Department of Energy Low-Level Waste Burial Grounds at Hanford, Washington; the no action alternative—protective waterborne storage for an indefinite period; disposal and reuse of subdivided portions of the reactor compartments; and indefinite storage above ground at Hanford.

Several other alternatives are also examined in limited detail. These alternatives include sea disposal; land disposal of entire reactor compartments at other sites and permanent above ground disposal of entire reactor compartments at Hanford.

Navy reactor plants constructed prior to the USS LOS ANGELES (SSN 688) (referred to as pre-LOS ANGELES Class submarines) share many common design characteristics with reactor plants from cruisers, OHIO Class submarines and LOS ANGELES Class submarines. Pre-LOS ANGELES Class submarines are currently being disposed

of at the Department of Energy Hanford Site in Eastern Washington by Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Bremerton Washington, consistent with the Secretary of the Navy's 1984 Record of Decision on disposal of decommissioned, defueled Naval submarine reactor plants. Because of the negligible environmental impact, land burial of the reactor compartment at the Hanford Site is the preferred alternative for disposal of reactor compartments from cruisers, OHIO Class submarines and LOS ANGELES Class submarines.

No new legislation would be required to implement any of these alternatives. In all of the alternatives considered in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement there would be no spent nuclear fuel left in the reactor compartments. All the radioactive nuclear fuel would be removed before disposal. Management of the spent nuclear fuel is addressed in a separate Department of Energy Environmental Impact Statement, though there would be some other radioactive materials left within the reactor compartments. Therefore, the Draft Environmental Impact Statement evaluates disposal of the reactor compartments after all the spent nuclear fuel has been removed. Types of U.S. Navy nuclear-powered ships that are expected to be decommissioned more than 20 years in the future (e.g., aircraft carriers and SEAWOLF Class submarines) are not included in this Final Environmental Impact Statement.

The Navy held public hearings on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement in Bremerton, Richland, and Seattle, Washington; and Portland, Oregon. Comments from 20 individuals and agencies were received either in oral or written statements at the hearings or in comment letters. These comments and the Navy responses are included in an appendix to the Final Environmental Impact Statement.

The Final Environmental Impact Statement has been distributed to various federal, state, and local government agencies, tribes, elected officials, and special interest groups. Requests for copies of the Final Environmental Impact Statement should be directed to the address listed above. In addition, copies of the Final Environmental Impact Statement are also available for public inspection in the following libraries: Kitsap County Public Library, Main Branch, 1301 Sylvan Way, Bremerton, Washington, phone (360)377-7601; Public Reading Room for U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office, Washington State University, Tri-Cities, 100 Sprout

Road, Room 130 West, Richland, Washington, phone (509)376-8583; Suzallo Library, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, phone (206)543-9158; Multnomah County Library, 801 Southwest 10th Avenue (Due to renovation work, temporarily relocated to 1407 SW 4th Avenue), Portland, Oregon, phone (503)248-5234.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. John Gordon as noted above.

Dated April 24, 1996.

M.A. Waters,
LCDR, JAGC, USN, Federal Register Liaison Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. ES96-23-000]

Boston Edison Company; Notice of Application

May 2, 1996.

Take notice that on April 26, 1996, Boston Edison Company filed an application, under § 204 of the Federal Power Act, seeking authorization to issue short-term debt, from time to time, in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$350 million, outstanding at any one time, on or before December 31, 1998, with final maturities no later than December 31, 1999.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest said filing should file a motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 first Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426 in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214). All such motions or protests should be filed on or before May 28, 1996. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make the protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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