

receiving this Commission meeting schedule electronically, please send an electronic message to [wmh@nrc.gov](mailto:wmh@nrc.gov) or [dkw@nrc.gov](http://dkw@nrc.gov).

\* \* \* \* \*

Dated: February 21, 1997.

William M. Hill, Jr.,  
SECY Tracking Officer, Office of the  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-4789 Filed 2-21-97; 2:33 pm]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-M

[Docket No. 50-271]

**Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation; Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station; Receipt of Petition for Director's Decision Under 10 CFR 2.206**

Notice is hereby given that on December 6, 1996, the Citizens Awareness Network, Inc. (CAN or Petitioner) filed a Petition pursuant to 10 CFR 2.206 with the Secretary of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) requesting evaluation of certain documents relating to the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station operated by the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation (Licensee) to determine whether enforcement action was warranted.

The first document included in the Petition is a CAN memorandum dated December 5, 1996, that reviews information presented by the Licensee at an enforcement conference held on July 23, 1996, involving the Vermont Yankee residual heat removal system minimum flow valves. CAN raises a concern that the corrective action taken by the Licensee in opening these valves may have introduced an unreviewed safety question with regard to containment isolation.

The second document included in the Petition is a CAN memorandum dated December 6, 1996, that reviews certain licensee event reports (LERs) submitted by the Licensee in the latter part of 1996. A variety of issues are discussed including fire protection, tornado protection, thermal protection for piping lines, equipment operability, and equipment testing. On the basis of its analysis of the LERs, CAN reaches certain conclusions regarding the performance of the Licensee and actions that should be taken.

On the basis of these documents, CAN requests that the NRC determine whether enforcement action is warranted pursuant to 10 CFR 2.206.

The issues in the Petition are being treated pursuant to 10 CFR 2.206 of the Commission's regulations. As provided

by 10 CFR 2.206, appropriate action with regard to these issues will be taken within a reasonable time. By letter dated February 12, 1997, the Acting Director acknowledged receipt of the Petition.

A copy of the Petition is available for inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room at 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20555-0001, and at the local public document room located at Brooks Memorial Library, 224 Main Street, Brattleboro, VT 05301.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 12th day of February 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.  
Frank J. Miraglia,  
*Acting Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*

[FR Doc. 97-4572 Filed 2-24-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

**Operator Licensing Examination Standards Interim Revision; Notice of Availability**

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

**ACTION:** Notice of Availability.

**SUMMARY:** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued interim Revision 8 of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," (formerly "Operator Licensing Examiner Standards"). The Commission uses this document to provide policy and guidance for the development, administration, and grading of written examinations and operating tests used to determine the qualifications of individuals who apply for operator and senior operator licenses at nuclear power plants pursuant to Part 55 of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR Part 55). The NUREG provides similar guidance for verifying the continued qualifications of licensed operators when the staff determines that NRC requalification examinations are necessary.

NUREG-1021 has been revised to incorporate the examination development process described in Generic Letter 95-06, "Changes in the Operator Licensing Program," dated August 15, 1995, and permits power reactor facility licensees to continue preparing their initial operator licensing examinations on a voluntary basis pending an amendment to 10 CFR Part 55 that will require facility participation. Interim Revision 8 incorporates lessons learned during a pilot examination program conducted from October 1995 to April 1996 and industry recommendations submitted in response to the NRC's request for public

comments published in the Federal Register on February 22, 1996 (61 FR 6869). The guidance that was previously contained in NUREG/BR-0122, "Examiners' Handbook for Developing Operator Licensing Written Examinations," has been appended to NUREG-1021, and a number of minor improvements and clarifications that were recommended by industry groups, licensed operators, and NRC examiners and managers have also been adopted. The entire NUREG has been reformatted to more clearly identify the various organizational responsibilities and is being reissued in its entirety. The NRC intends to solicit comments on this interim revision during the rulemaking process and to issue the final version of Revision 8 in conjunction with the final rule.

For examinations prepared by the NRC, interim Revision 8 will become effective 60 days after the date of this notice. The corporate notification letters issued after the effective date will give facility licensees at least 120 days of advance notice that the examinations will be administered in accordance with the revised procedures. Facility licensees that volunteered to prepare their examinations before the date of this notice are expected to prepare the examinations based on the guidance in interim Revision 8 or the pilot examination guidance in Generic Letter 95-06, as arranged with their NRC Regional Office. Facility licensees that volunteer after the date of this notice are expected to prepare the examinations based on the guidance in interim Revision 8. Facility licensees may propose deviations from the specific guidance in NUREG-1021, and the NRC will review and approve the deviations, as appropriate. However, the NRC will not approve any deviation that would compromise its statutory responsibility of prescribing uniform conditions for the licensing of nuclear power plant operators.

Copies of NUREG-1021, interim Revision 8, are being mailed to the plant or site manager at each nuclear power facility regulated by the NRC. A copy is available for inspection and/or copying for a fee in the NRC Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, NW (Lower Level), Washington, DC. NUREG-1021 is also electronically available for downloading from the Internet at "<http://www.nrc.gov>".

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 3rd day of February 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.  
 Stuart A. Richards,  
*Chief, Operator Licensing Branch, Division of Reactor Controls and Human Factors, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*  
 [FR Doc. 97-4571 Filed 2-24-97; 8:45 am]  
 BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

Office of Management and Budget, 725  
 17th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.  
 20503, Telephone Number: (202) 395-  
 6104, FAX Number (202) 395-7230.  
 Franklin D. Raines,  
*Director.*

FY 2002 .....2.6  
 FY 2003 .....2.6

Geographic pay differentials received in 1997 shall be included for the development of in-house personnel costs. The above pay raise factors shall be applied after consideration is given to the geographic pay differentials. The pay raise factors provided for 1998 and beyond shall be applied to all employees, with no assumption being made as to how they will be distributed between possible locality and ECI-based increases.

These updates are effective as follows: all changes in the Transmittal Memorandum are effective immediately and shall apply to all cost comparisons in process where the Government's in-house cost estimate has not been publicly revealed before this date.

Agencies are reminded that OMB Circular No. A-76, Transmittal Memorandum 1 through Transmittal Memorandum 14 are canceled. Transmittal Memorandum No. 15 provided the Revised Supplemental Handbook, and is dated March 27, 1997 (Federal Register, April 1, 1996, pages 14338-14346). Transmittal Memorandum No. 16, which provided last year's OMB Circular A-76 Federal pay raise and inflation factor assumptions is also hereby canceled.

Sincerely,  
 Franklin D. Raines,  
*Director.*  
 [FR Doc. 97-4511 Filed 2-24-97; 8:45 am]  
 BILLING CODE 3110-01-P

**OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET**

**Issuance of Transmittal Memorandum No. 17, Amending OMB Circular No. A-76, "Performance of Commercial Activities"**

**AGENCY:** Office of Management and Budget.

**SUMMARY:** This notice contains Transmittal Memorandum No. 17, to OMB Circular No. A-76, "Performance of Commercial Activities."

This Transmittal Memorandum updates the Federal pay raise assumptions and inflation factors used for computing the Government's in-house personnel and non-pay costs for Fiscal Years 1997 through 2003. The Federal pay raise assumptions and the non-pay category rates are, generally, contained in the President's Budget for Fiscal Year 1998. The factors contained in OMB Circular No. A-76, Transmittal Memorandum No. 16 are outdated. It should not be assumed that these civilian pay raises will be those that will be in effect for preparation of the FY 1999 Budget. Guidance on pay raise assumptions to use for the FY 1999 Budget will be issued to agencies prior to the Budget submission date.

The revision does not require any agency to (1) create or maintain a duplicate control/monitoring/reporting system or (2) adopt any additional controls, not presently in compliance with Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR).

Agencies are reminded that OMB Circular No. A-76, Transmittal Memoranda 1 through 14 are canceled. Transmittal Memorandum No. 15 provided the Revised Supplemental Handbook, dated March 1996 (Federal Register, April 1, 1996, pages 14338-14346).

**DATES:** As with previous OMB Circular A-76 Transmittals, the provisions of Transmittal Memorandum No. 17 are effective immediately and shall apply to all cost comparisons in progress that have not yet undergone bid opening or where the in-house bid has not yet otherwise been revealed.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. David Childs, Budget Analysis and Systems Division, NEOB Room 6002,

Executive Office of the President  
*Office of Management and Budget*  
 Washington, D.C. 20503  
 February 13, 1997.

Circular No. A-76 (Revised)  
 Transmittal Memorandum No. 17  
 To the Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies  
 Subject: Performance of Commercial Activities

This Transmittal Memorandum updates the Federal pay raise assumptions and inflation factors used for the computing the Government's in-house personnel and non-pay costs, as generally provided in the President's Budget for Fiscal Year 1998. However, because the 1998 Budget did not specify 1999-2003 pay raises for civilian employees, *for purposes of A-76 cost comparison determinations only*, the civilian pay raise percentages for 1999-2003 shall be assumed to be the same as the military pay raise assumptions for the corresponding years as shown below. It should *not* be assumed that these civilian pay raises will be those that will be in effect for preparation of the FY 1999 Budget. Guidance on pay raise assumptions to use for the FY 1999 Budget will be issued to agencies prior to the Budget submission date.

Similarly, the non-pay inflation factors are for purposes of A-76 cost comparison determinations only. They reflect the generic non-pay inflation assumptions used to develop the FY 1998 Budget baseline estimates required by law. The law requires that a specific inflation factor (GNP fixed-weight FY/FY index) be used for this purpose. These inflation factors should not be viewed as estimates of expected inflation rates for major long-term procurement items or as an estimate of inflation for any particular agency's non-pay purchases mix.

The following factors should be applied per paragraph B, pages 19-21 of the OMB Circular A-76 Revised Supplemental Handbook (March 1996).

| Federal pay raise assumptions effective date | Military/civilian |
|--|-------------------|
| January 1998 .....                           | 2.8               |
| January 1999 .....                           | 3.0               |
| January 2000 .....                           | 3.0               |
| January 2001 .....                           | 3.0               |
| January 2002 .....                           | 3.0               |
| January 2003 .....                           | 3.0               |

*Non-Pay Categories (Supplies and Equipment, etc.)*

|               |     |
|---------------|-----|
| FY 1996 ..... | 2.2 |
| FY 1997 ..... | 2.5 |
| FY 1998 ..... | 2.6 |
| FY 1999 ..... | 2.6 |
| FY 2000 ..... | 2.6 |
| FY 2001 ..... | 2.6 |

**POSTAL SERVICE BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

**Sunshine Act Meeting**

**TIMES AND DATES:** 10:30 a.m., Monday, March 3, 1997; 8:30 a.m., Tuesday, March 4, 1997; and 8:00 a.m. Wednesday, March 5, 1997.

**PLACE:** Washington, D.C., U.S. Postal Service Headquarters, 475 L'Enfant Plaza, S.W., in the Benjamin Franklin Room.

**STATUS:** March 3 (Closed); March 4 (Open); March 5 (Closed).

**MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:**

Monday, March 3 - 10:30 a.m. (Closed)

1. Inspector General Functions.
2. Postal Rate Commission Docket No. C96-1, Pack & Send.
3. Postal Rate Commission Opinion and Recommended Decision on Special Services.
4. Exercising the Board's Reserved Approval Authority with Respect to Performance of a Prototype for the Tray Management System.
5. Contingency Planning.
6. Compensation Issues.

Tuesday, March 4 - 8:30 a.m. (Open)

1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting, February 3-4, 1997.
2. Remarks of the Postmaster General/Chief Executive Officer.