

the Federal Register on November 27, 1995 (60 FR 58402). However, by letter dated February 4, 1997, the licensee withdrew the proposed change.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated October 24, 1995, as supplemented March 7, 1996, and the licensee's letter dated February 4, 1997, which withdrew the application for license amendment. The above documents are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room located at the Learning Resources Center, Three Rivers Community-Technical College, 574 New London Turnpike, Norwich, Connecticut, and the Waterford Library, ATTN: Vince Juliano, 49 Rope Ferry Road, Waterford, Connecticut.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 19th day of February 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
Daniel G. McDonald,
*Senior Project Manager Special Projects
Office—Licensing Office of Nuclear Reactor
Regulation.*

[FR Doc. 97-4856 Filed 2-26-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

Northeast Utilities; Notice of Document Availability and Public Meeting

On January 31, 1997, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) received from Northeast Nuclear Energy Company (NNECO), the licensee for the Millstone Nuclear Power Station, its comprehensive plan for resolving employee safety concerns. The plan is in response to an NRC Order. On October 24, 1996, the Director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation sent an Order to NNECO requiring: (1) A comprehensive plan for resolving the Millstone station employees' safety concerns; and (2) an independent third-party oversight of NNECO's implementation of this plan. Copies of NNECO's Comprehensive Plan pertaining to the employee safety concerns program are available at the Waterford Public Library, ATTN: Mr. Vincent Juliano, 49 Rope Ferry Road, Waterford, Connecticut, and the Learning Resources Center, Three Rivers Community-Technical College, 574 New London Turnpike, Norwich, Connecticut.

The NRC will hold a public meeting regarding the comprehensive plan for resolving the Millstone station employees' safety concerns. The meeting will be held in the near future at the Waterford Town Hall in

Waterford, Connecticut. The meeting will be open to public attendance and will be transcribed. The NRC has elected to hold such a public meeting because of the public's interest.

The structure of the public meeting shall be as follows:

NRC opening remarks
Members of the public comments and questions
NRC closing remarks
Meeting concludes

The purpose of this public meeting is to obtain comments from members of the public for NRC staff use in evaluating NNECO's comprehensive plan addressing employee safety concerns. The staff will not offer any preliminary views on its evaluation of the comprehensive plan. The public meeting will be chaired by a senior NRC official who will limit presentations to the above subject.

A meeting notice will be issued stating the date and time of the meeting.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 19th day of February 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
Helen N. Pastis,
*Senior Project Manager, Special Projects
Office—Licensing, Office of Nuclear Reactor
Regulation.*

[FR Doc. 97-4854 Filed 2-26-97; 8:45 am]

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[Docket No. 50-362]

Southern California Edison Company; Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating License, Proposed No Significant Hazards Consideration Determination, and Opportunity for a Hearing

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. NPF-15 issued to Southern California Edison Company (the licensee) for operation of the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS), Unit No. 3 located in San Diego County, California.

The proposed amendment would defer implementation of Surveillance Requirement 3.3.5.6 of Technical Specification 3.3.5, "Engineered Safety Features Actuation System (ESFAS) Instrumentation" for the 30 subgroup relays identified in Attachment C of the licensee's February 18, 1997, letter to no later than the upcoming SONGS Unit 3 Cycle 9 refueling outage (currently scheduled to begin on April 12, 1997).

The exigent circumstances for this TS amendment request exist because it would avoid an undesirable transient associated with an unnecessary plant

shutdown and this would minimize potential safety consequences and operational risks associated with such action. In the event of a planned or unplanned shutdown of Unit 3, prior to the Cycle 9 refueling outage, testing in accordance with Surveillance Requirement 3.3.5.6 will be completed prior to increasing in Modes from that shutdown.

Before issuance of the proposed license amendment, the Commission will have made findings required by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act) and the Commission's regulations.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.91(a)(6) for amendments to be granted under exigent circumstances, the NRC staff must determine that the amendment request involves 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. As required by 10 CFR 50.91(a), the licensee has provided its analysis of the issue of no significant hazards consideration, which is presented below:

1. The proposed change does not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated.

The proposed change would defer completion of Surveillance Requirement (SR) 3.3.5.6 of Technical Specification (TS) 3.3.5 for 30 Emergency Safety Feature Actuation System (ESFAS) subgroup relays until the Unit 3, Cycle 9 refueling outage.

Operation of the facility would remain unchanged as a result of the proposed change and no assumptions or results of any accident analyses are affected. Based on other surveillance testing, the response time margin available for these subgroup relays, results of response time testing on Unit 2 relays, and the history of no failures since the 1989 to 1993 time period, the capability of these ESFAS subgroup relays to perform their specified safety function has been demonstrated and they are operable.

Therefore, the proposed change will not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated.

2. The proposed change does not create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated.

The proposed change would defer completion of SR 3.3.5.6 of TS 3.3.5 for 30 ESFAS subgroup relays until the Unit 3, Cycle 9 refueling outage.

Operation of the facility would remain unchanged as a result of the proposed change. No equipment change or operating procedure change is being made. Therefore, the proposed change will not create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated.

3. The proposed change does not involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety.

The proposed change would defer completion of SR 3.3.5.6 of TS 3.3.5 for 30 ESFAS subgroup relays until the Unit 3, Cycle 9 refueling outage. Based on other surveillance testing, the response time margin available for these subgroup relays, and results of testing on Unit 2 relays, the capability of these ESFAS subgroup relays to perform their specified safety function has been demonstrated and they are operable. Therefore, this proposed change does not involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety.

The NRC staff has reviewed the licensee's analysis and, based on this review, it appears that the three standards of 10 CFR 50.92(c) are satisfied. Therefore, the NRC staff proposes to determine that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration.

The Commission is seeking public comments on this proposed determination. Any comments received within 15 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 15-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 15-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. Should the Commission take this action, it will publish in the Federal Register a notice of 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 Review and Directives Branch, Division of Freedom of Information and Publications 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 NRC Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC.

The filing of requests for hearing and petitions for leave to intervene is discussed below.

By March 31, 1997 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 Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room located at the Main Library, University of California, P.O. Box 19557, Irvine, California 92713. If a request for a hearing or petition for leave to intervene is filed by the above date, the Commission or an Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, designated by the Commission or by the Chairman of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel, will rule on the request and/or petition; and the Secretary or the designated Atomic Safety and Licensing Board will issue a notice of hearing or an appropriate order.

As required by 10 CFR 2.714, a petition for leave to intervene shall set forth with particularity the interest of the petitioner in the proceeding, and how that interest may be affected by the results of the proceeding. The petition should specifically explain the reasons why intervention should be permitted with particular reference to the following factors: (1) The nature of the petitioner's right under the Act to be made a party to the proceeding; (2) the nature and extent of the petitioner's property, financial, or other interest in the proceeding; and (3) the possible effect of any order which may be entered in the proceeding on the petitioner's interest. The petition should also identify the specific aspect(s) of the subject matter of the proceeding as to which petitioner wishes to intervene. Any person who has filed a petition for leave to intervene or who has been admitted as a party may amend the petition without requesting leave of the Board up to 15 days prior to the first

prehearing conference scheduled in the proceeding, but such an amended petition must satisfy the specificity requirements described above.

Not later than 15 days prior to the first prehearing conference scheduled in the proceeding, a petitioner shall file a supplement to the petition to intervene which must include a list of the contentions which are sought to be litigated in the matter. Each contention must consist of a specific statement of the issue of law or fact to be raised or controverted. In addition, the petitioner shall provide a brief explanation of the bases of the contention and a concise statement of the alleged facts or expert opinion which support the contention and on which the petitioner intends to rely in proving the contention at the hearing. The petitioner must also provide references to those specific sources and documents of which the petitioner is aware and on which the petitioner intends to rely to establish those facts or expert opinion. Petitioner must provide sufficient information to show that a genuine dispute exists with the applicant on a material issue of law or fact. Contentions shall be limited to matters within the scope of the amendment under consideration. The contention must be one which, if proven, would entitle the petitioner to relief. A petitioner who fails to file such a supplement which satisfies these requirements with respect to at least one contention will not be permitted to participate as a party.

Those permitted to intervene become parties to the proceeding, subject to any limitations in the order granting leave to intervene, and have the opportunity to participate fully in the conduct of the hearing, including the opportunity to present evidence and cross-examine witnesses.

If the amendment is issued before the expiration of the 30-day hearing period, the Commission will make a final determination on the issue of no significant hazards consideration. If a hearing is requested, the final determination will serve to decide when the hearing is held.

If the final determination is that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration, the Commission may issue the amendment and make it immediately effective, notwithstanding the request for a hearing. Any hearing held would take place after issuance of the amendment.

If the final determination is that the amendment request involves a significant hazards consideration, any hearing held would take place before the issuance of any amendment.

A request for a hearing or a petition for leave to intervene must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, Attention: Docketing and Services Branch, or may be delivered to the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, by the above date. Where petitions are filed during the last 10 days of the notice period, it is requested that the petitioner promptly so inform the Commission by a toll-free telephone call to Western Union at 1-(800) 248-5100 (in Missouri 1-(800) 342-6700). The Western Union operator should be given Datagram Identification Number N1023 and the following message addressed to William H. Bateman, Director, Project Directorate IV-2: petitioner's name and telephone number, date petition was mailed, plant name, and publication date and page number of this Federal Register notice. A copy of the petition should also be sent to the Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, and to T.E. Oubre, Esquire, Southern California Edison Company, P.O. Box 800, Rosemead, California 91770, attorney for the licensee.

Nontimely filings of petitions for leave to intervene, amended petitions, supplemental petitions and/or requests for hearing will not be entertained absent a determination by the Commission, the presiding officer or the presiding Atomic Safety and Licensing Board that the petition and/or request should be granted based upon a balancing of the factors specified in 10 CFR 2.714(a)(1) (i)-(v) and 2.714(d).

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated February 18, 1997, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room, located at the Main Library, University of California, P.O. Box 19557, Irvine, California 92713.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 21st day of February 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
Mel B. Fields,

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

[FR Doc. 97-4857 Filed 2-26-97; 8:45 am]

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OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Standard Form 87

AGENCY: Office of Personnel Management.

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Public Law 104-13, May 22, 1995), this notice announces that the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request for a clearance of an information collection. Standard Form 87, Fingerprint Chart, is completed by applicants for Federal positions throughout the Government. OPM uses the information to conduct checks of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) fingerprint files as required by Executive Order 10450, Security Requirements for Government Employment, issued April 27, 1953, or required or authorized under other authority.

It is estimated that 250,000 individuals will respond annually for a total burden of 20,833 hours. To obtain copies of this proposal please contact James M. Farron at (202) 418-3208 or by E-mail to jmfarron@opm.gov.

DATES: Comments on this proposal should be received by March 31, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Send or deliver comments to—

Richard A. Ferris, Office of Personnel Management, Investigations Service, 1900 E. Street NW., Room 5416, Washington, DC 20004

and

Joseph Lackey, OPM Desk Officer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, New Executive Office Building, NW., Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503.

Office of Personnel Management.

James B. King,

Director.

[FR Doc. 97-4841 Filed 2-26-97; 8:45 am]

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RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

SUMMARY: In accordance with the requirement of Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 which provides opportunity for public comment on new or revised data

collections, the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) will publish periodic summaries of proposed data collections.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information has practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the RRB's estimate of the burden of the collection of the information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden related to the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Title and purpose of information collection: Application for Hospital Insurance Benefits; OMB 3220-0082 Under Section 7(d) of the Railroad Retirement Act (RRA), the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) administers the Medicare program for persons covered by the railroad retirement system. The RRB uses Form AA-6, Employee Application for Medicare; Form AA-7, Spouse/Divorced Spouse Application For Medicare; and Form AA-8, Widow/Widower Application for Medicare; to obtain the information needed to determine whether individuals who have not yet filed for benefits under the RRA are qualified for Medicare payments provided under Title XVIII of the Social Security Act. Completion is required to obtain a benefit. One response is requested of each respondent.

The RRB proposes a minor editorial change to Forms AA-6, AA-7 and AA-8 to incorporate language required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The RRB estimates that 180 Form AA-6's, 50 Form AA-7's, and 10 Form AA-8's are completed annually. The completion time for all three forms is estimated at 8 minutes.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS:

To request more information or to obtain a copy of the information collection justification, forms, and/or supporting material, please call the RRB Clearance Officer at (312) 751-3363.

Comments regarding the information collection should be addressed to Ronald J. Hodapp, Railroad Retirement Board, 844 North Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611-2092. Written comments should be received within 60 days of this notice.

Chuck Mierzwa,

Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 97-4905 Filed 2-26-97; 8:45 am]

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