

Date and Time: March 26–27, 1997; 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Place: National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Room 1175, Arlington, VA 22230.

Type of Meeting: Closed.

Contact Person(s): Mark Luker, Program Director, CISE/NCRI, Room 1175, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230, (703) 306–1950.

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

Agenda: To review and evaluate proposals submitted for the Connections to the Internet Program.

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: March 7, 1997.

Linda Allen-Benton,

Deputy Director, Division of Human Resource Management, Acting Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 97–6225 Filed 3–11–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–M

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Public Hearing in Atlanta, Georgia: Aviation Accident

In connection with its investigation of the accident involving Delta Air Lines, Inc. Flight 1288, MD–88, N927DA, Pensacola Regional Airport, Pensacola, Florida, July 6, 1996, the National Transportation Safety Board will convene a public hearing at 9:00 a.m., (est.) on March 26, 1997, in Ballroom A, at the Atlanta Hilton and Towers Hotel, located at 255 Courtland Street, Atlanta, Georgia 30303. For more information, contact Shelly Hazle, Office of Public Affairs, Washington, D.C. 20594, telephone (202) 314–6100.

Dated: March 7, 1997.

Bea Hardesty,

Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 97–6192 Filed 3–11–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7533–01–P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50–293]

Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station; 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. DPR–35 issued to Boston Edison Company (BECO, the licensee) for operation of the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station located in Plymouth County, Massachusetts.

The proposed amendment would review and approve the engineering analysis used to evaluate the effects of damping values in the seismic analysis of various Pilgrim Station piping systems. Following NRC approval, BECO would revise the Pilgrim Updated Final Safety Analysis Report (UFSAR) to make the above engineering analysis the design basis of record for the affected piping systems provided in the licensee's January 24, 1997, letter, as supplemented on February 13 and 27, 1997.

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.

The Commission has made a proposed determination 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) Involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated.

The engineering evaluation referenced above compared newly generated in-structure response spectra for the reactor building using an enhanced reactor building model and included the effects of soil/structure interaction. The results show the new spectra are enveloped by a comparable UFSAR design basis spectra and that piping stresses

are less than design basis allowables. The new spectra differ from the current UFSAR response spectra in that the generic Regulatory Guide 1.60 spectral shape is used to characterize the 0.15g Safe Shutdown Earthquake control motion using a soil/structure interaction analysis with an upgraded structural model to evaluate building response and ASME Code Case N411 damping values for piping analyses.

The new piping stresses computed, as described above, result in less than design basis allowables. Since the stresses are acceptable and the methods to compute them used applicable Standard Review Plan (SRP) guidance, the proposed UFSAR revision does not significantly increase the probability of loss-of-coolant accidents (i.e., piping failures) nor significantly reduce the reliability of piping needed to mitigate the consequences of accidents. Therefore, the proposed revision does not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated.

(2) Create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated.

The revision relates to the method used to compute the response of structures and piping to seismic excitation and does not introduce a new type of failure mode. Since no new accident initiators are created, no new types of accidents can occur. Therefore, the proposed revision does not create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated.

(3) Involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety.

The margin of safety for affected piping systems is reduced because the new response spectra results in a reduction of the computed seismic stresses compared to those computed using current UFSAR response spectra. However, this reduction in margin is not significant because the resulting piping stresses are less than design basis allowable values, and the methods used to compute response spectra associated with the 0.15 g Safe Shutdown Earthquake were determined using applicable NRC SRP guidance. Thus, although margin of safety for the affected piping is reduced, it is not a significant reduction in the 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 30 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 30-day notice period. However, should circumstances change during the notice period such that