

MEDICARE PAYMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION**Commission Meeting**

AGENCY: Medicare Payment Advisory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Commission will hold its next public meeting on Thursday, January 15, 1998 and Friday, January 16, 1998 at the Embassy Suites Hotel, 1250 22nd Street N.W., Washington, DC in the Consulate/Ambassador Room. The meetings are tentatively scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. on January 15 and at 8:30 a.m. on January 16.

At the meeting, the Commission will be reviewing a draft of its March 1998 report to the Congress. Among the topics the Commission will discuss are: improving Medicare+Choice capitation payments, risk adjustment, the adjusted community rate, PPS operating and capital updates, disproportionate share payments, moving to prospective payment systems for post-acute care, payment policy for hospital outpatient department services, physician payment policy, payment issues for special populations, and graduate medical education.

Final agendas will be mailed on January 9, 1998 and will be available on the Commission's web sites (WWW.PPRC.GOV and WWW.PROPAC.GOV) at that time.

ADDRESSES: 2120 L Street, N.W.; Suite 200; Washington, D.C. 20037. The telephone number is 202/653-7220.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ann Johnson, Executive Assistant, at 202/653-7220.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: If you are not on the Commission mailing list and wish to receive an agenda, please call 202/653-7220 after January 9, 1998.

Lauren LeRoy,

Executive Director.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50-317, 50-318 and 72-8]

Baltimore Gas Electric Company (Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Units 1 and 2, and the Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation); Order Extending the Effectiveness of the Approval of the Transfer of Licenses**I**

By Order dated October 18, 1996, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the

Commission or NRC) approved the proposed transfer of Operating Licenses Nos. DPR-53 and DPR-69 for the Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Units 1 and 2, and Material Licenses No. SNM-2505 for the Calvert Cliffs Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation from Baltimore Gas and Electric Company (BGE) to Constellation Energy Corporation. The approval was given in response to an application filed by BGE dated April 5, 1996, for consent under Sections 50.80 and 72.50 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR 50.80 and 10 CFR 72.50). By its terms, the Order of October 18, 1996, becomes null and void if the transfer of the licenses is not consummated by December 31, 1997, unless on application and for good cause shown, such date is extended by the Commission.

II

By letter dated November 21, 1997, BGE submitted a request for an extension of the effectiveness of the Order of October 18, 1996, such that approval of the transfers would remain effective until December 31, 1998. According to this submittal, all of the necessary regulatory approvals have been obtained to permit the consummation of the merger between BGE and Potomac Electric Power Company, resulting in Constellation Energy Corporation. BGE asserts, however, that the Maryland and District of Columbia Public Service Commission attached conditions to their approvals that are inconsistent with the respective merger applications. The companies proposing to merge have filed joint requests with the Maryland and District of Columbia Commissions for rehearing of their original orders approving the merger.

According to BGE, an intervenor in the Maryland case appealed the Maryland Commission's order approving the merger to the Circuit Court in Baltimore County, and this appeal has delayed the expected merger process. The Circuit Court affirmed the Maryland Commission's order on October 27, 1997, but the Court's order has now been appealed to the Court of Special Appeals of Maryland. The issues being appealed, and those that are contained in the requests for rehearing in both Maryland and the District of Columbia, do not change the information provided to the NRC on which its October 18, 1996, Order was based.

The staff has considered the foregoing request of November 21, 1997, and has determined that BGE has demonstrated good cause to extend the effectiveness of

the Order of October 18, 1996, approving the license transfers.

III

Accordingly, pursuant to Sections 161b and 161i of the Atomic Energy Act, as amended, 42 USC §§ 2201(b) and 2201(l), *It is hereby ordered* that the effectiveness of the Order of October 18, 1996, approving the transfer of the licenses described herein is extended such that if the subject transfer of licenses is not consummated by December 31, 1998, the Order of October 18, 1996, shall become null and void.

This Order is effective upon issuance.

For further details with respect to this action, see the letter dated November 21, 1997, from BGE which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room located at the Calvert County Library, Prince Frederick, Maryland 20678.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

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

Samuel J. Collins,

Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

Carl J. Paperiello,

Director, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.

[FR Doc. 97-33680 Filed 12-24-97; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-155]

Consumers Energy Company; Big Rock Point Nuclear Plant Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission or NRC) is considering issuance of an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix E, Section IV.F.2.c, regarding biennial exercise of the offsite emergency plan to Consumers Energy Company (Consumers or the licensee), for the Big Rock Point (BRP) Nuclear Plant located in Charlevoix County, Michigan.

Environmental Assessment*Identification of the Proposed Action*

The proposed exemption would allow a one-time schedular exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix E, Section IV.F.2.c, which states that each licensee at each site