

by the Commission. Principal design criteria established by an applicant and accepted by the Commission will be incorporated by reference in the construction permit. The SOC also notes that in considering the issuance of an operating license under part 50, the Commission will require assurance that these criteria have been satisfied in the detailed design and construction of the facility and any changes in such criteria are justified. It should be noted that a proposed Appendix A to 10 CFR part 50 was published in the **Federal Register** on July 11, 1967, and the comments and suggestions received in response to the notice of proposed rule making and subsequent developments in the technology and in the licensing process have been considered in developing the general design criteria.)

- Appendix A to 10 CFR part 50, General Design Criterion (GDC) 13, "Instrumentation and control," which addresses the provision of appropriate instrumentation and controls to monitor and control systems and variables during normal operation, anticipated operational occurrences, and accident conditions as appropriate to ensure adequate safety.

- Appendix A to 10 CFR part 50, GDC 19, "Control room," which requires the provision of a control room from which actions can be taken to operate the nuclear plant safely.

- Appendix A to 10 CFR part 50, GDC 23, "Protection system failure modes," which requires that the protection system shall be designed to fail into a safe state or into a state demonstrated to be acceptable on some other defined basis.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 23rd day of January 1998.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Jack W. Roe,

Acting Director, Division of Reactor Program Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 98-2182 Filed 1-28-98; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 40-8989; License No. SUA-1559]

Envirocare of Utah, Inc.; Notice of Receipt of Petition for Director's Decision Under 10 CFR 2.206

Notice is hereby given that by petition dated December 12, 1997, Mr. Thomas B. Cochran, Director of Nuclear Programs, Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) requested that the U.S.

Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) take action with regard to Envirocare of Utah, Inc. (Envirocare). The Petitioner requests that the NRC: (1) Conduct an immediate investigation of issues raised in the Petition and immediately suspend Envirocare's NRC license; (2) conduct an investigation of possible criminal violations of section 223 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act); (3) immediately suspend Envirocare's license with the State of Utah, under section 274j(2) of the Act; (4) investigate the adequacy of the State of Utah agreement state program to protect whistle blowers; (5) contact each current and former Envirocare employee personally, on a confidential basis, to advise them of their rights to inform the NRC of unsafe practices and violations, to inform them of the protections available to them, and to ask them if they have any information which they wish to disclose, on a confidential basis or otherwise; and (6) order a special independent review of Envirocare's relationships with its employees, along the lines of the review ordered by the NRC for the Millstone site.

As a basis for this request, the petitioner states that Envirocare's employee-related practices and contractual provisions constitute a violation of 42 U.S.C. 5851 and the NRC's whistle blower protection regulations under Parts 19 and 40 of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (i.e., 10 CFR 19.16, 19.20, and 40.7). Specifically, the petitioner states that current and former Envirocare employees who have provided to governmental authorities information adverse to Envirocare's interests fear for their lives and the lives of their families, should their identities become known to an officer of Envirocare. The petitioner also states that certain provisions in Envirocare's standard employment contract prevent its employees from disclosing to the NRC information concerning unsafe practices and violations under the NRC license and threaten them with severe financial penalties in the event of a disclosure.

The request for an investigation and the suspension of Envirocare's NRC license is being treated pursuant to 10 CFR 2.206 of the Commission's regulations. The request has been referred to the Director of the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards. As provided by § 2.206, appropriate action will be taken on this petition within a reasonable time. By letter dated January 16, 1998, the Director denied the petitioner's request for immediate action concerning Envirocare's NRC license. A copy of the petition is

available for public inspection and copying at the NRC Public Document Room, in the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street NW., Washington, DC 20555.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 16th day of January 1998.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Carl J. Paperiello,

Director, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.

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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

Withholding Certificate for Railroad Retirement Monthly Annuity Payments; OMB 3220-0149.

The Internal Revenue Code requires all payers of tax liable private pensions to U.S. citizens to: (1) Notify each recipient at least concurrent with initial withholding that the payer is, in fact, withholding benefits for tax liability and that the recipient has the option of electing not to have the payer withhold, or to withhold at a specific rate; (2) withhold benefits for tax purposes (in the absence of the recipient's election not to withhold benefits); and (3) notify all beneficiaries, at least annually, that they have the option of changing their withholding status or elect not to have benefits withheld.

The Railroad Retirement Board provides Form RRB-W4P, Withholding Certificate for Railroad Retirement