

operations at Maine Yankee Atomic Power Station and that all fuel had been permanently removed from the reactor. In accordance with 10 CFR 50.82(a)(2), the certifications in the letter modified the facility operating license to permanently withdraw MYAPC's authority to operate the reactor and to load fuel in the reactor vessel. In this permanently shutdown condition, the facility poses a reduced risk to public health and safety. Due to this reduced risk, certain requirements of 10 CFR 73.55 are no longer appropriate. An exemption is required from portions of 10 CFR 73.55 to allow the licensee to implement a revised Defueled Security Plan that is appropriate for the permanently shutdown and defueled reactor facility.

Environmental Impact of the Proposed Action

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed action. The Commission concludes that exemption from certain portions of 10 CFR 73.55 are acceptable given the reduced consequences of the threat to a defueled reactor site with respect to public health and safety from an act of sabotage resulting in the release of radioactive material contained in the spent fuel.

The proposed change will not increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types of effluents that may be released offsite, and there is no significant increase in the allowable individual or cumulative occupational exposure. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

With regard to potential non-radiological impacts, the proposed action does involve features located entirely with the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. It does not affect non-radiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant non-radiological impacts associated with the proposed action.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action

Since the Commission has concluded that there is no measurable environmental impact associated with the proposed action, any alternative with equal or greater environmental impact need not be evaluated. The principal alternative to the action would be to deny the request. Denial of the exemption request would result in no change in current environmental impacts. The environmental impacts of

the proposed action and the alternative action are similar.

Alternative Use of Resources

This action does not involve the use of resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement related to Operation of Maine Yankee Atomic Power Station, (July 1972).

Agencies and Persons Consulted

In accordance with its stated policy, on May 14, 1998, the NRC staff consulted with Mr. Patrick Dostie of the State of Maine, Department of Human Services, regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comments.

Finding of No Significant Impact

Based upon the environmental assessment, the Commission concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, the Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed action.

For further details with respect to this action, see the licensee's letter, dated November 25, 1997, which is available for public inspection at the Commission Public Document Room, Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the Local Public Document Room at the Wiscasset Public Library, High Street, Post Office Box 367, Wiscasset, Maine 04578.

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

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Seymour H. Weiss,

Director, Non-Power Reactors and Decommissioning Project Directorate, Division of Reactor Program Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 70-7001; 70-7002]

Procedures for Managing Gaseous Diffusion Plant Backfit Requirements; Notice of Availability

On March 26, 1997, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) published a notice of availability of the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS) Policy and Procedures Letter 1-53, "GDP Plant Specific and Generic Backfit Management." This policy and procedures letter contains guidance and criteria for implementing the Gaseous

Diffusion Plant backfit requirements of 10 CFR Part 76.76.

NRC received public comments on NMSS Policy and Procedures Letter 1-53, and has issued a revised version. This revised policy and procedures letter is available for inspection at the NRC Public Document Room, 2120 L Street NW (lower level), Washington, DC; the Paducah Public Library, 555 Washington Street, Paducah, Kentucky 42003 (Docket No. 70-7001); and the Portsmouth Public Library, 1220 Gallia Street, Portsmouth, Ohio 45662 (Docket No. 70-7002).

For further information, contact Tom Wenck, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, telephone (301) 415-8088.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 15th day of June 1998.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Malcolm R. Knapp,

Acting Director, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.

[FR Doc. 98-17216 Filed 6-26-98; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards; Subcommittee Meeting on Plant License Renewal; Notice of Meeting

The ACRS Subcommittee on Plant License Renewal will hold a meeting on July 16, 1998, Room T-2B3, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

The entire meeting will be open to public attendance.

The agenda for the subject meeting shall be as follows:

Thursday, July 16, 1998—8:30 a.m. until the conclusion of business

The Subcommittee will discuss the NRC staff's activities associated with license renewal, proposed staff's plans and schedule for reviewing the license renewal application and related safety issues. The Subcommittee will also discuss the ACRS involvement in reviewing the license renewal submittal and related matters. The purpose of this meeting is to gather information, analyze relevant issues and facts, and to formulate proposed positions and actions, as appropriate, for deliberation by the full Committee.

Oral statements may be presented by members of the public with the concurrence of the Subcommittee Chairman; written statements will be accepted and made available to the Committee. Electronic recordings will