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.

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: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff, or may be delivered to the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, by the above date. 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 General Counsel, Tennessee Valley Authority, 400 West Summit Drive, ET 10H, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902, 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).

If a request for a hearing is received, the Commission's staff may issue the amendment after it completes its technical review and prior to the completion of any required hearing if it publishes a further notice for public comment of its proposed finding of no significant hazards consideration in accordance with 10 CFR 50.91 and 50.92. For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendments dated June 26, and July 17, 1998 which 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 Athens Public Library, 405 E. South Street, Athens, Alabama.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 22nd day of July 1998.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

L. Raghavan,

Senior Project Manager, Project Directorate II–3, Division of Reactor Projects—I/II, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 98–20108 Filed 7–27–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590–01–P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50–482]

Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation; Notice of Partial Withdrawal of Application for Amendment to Facility Operating License

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has granted a request by Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation (the licensee) to withdraw part of its March 24, 1995, application for an amendment to Facility Operating License No. NPF–42, issued to the licensee for operation of the Wolf Creek Nuclear Generating Station, Unit No. 1, located in Coffey County, Kansas. Notice of Consideration of Issuance of this amendment was published in the **Federal Register** on April 12, 1995 (60 FR 18632).

The portion of the licensee's amendment request which is being withdrawn is the revision of the Technical Specifications (TS) that would change the allowed outage time (AOT) for other reasons of accumulator inoperability from 1 hour to 24 hours.

Subsequently the licensee informed the staff that this portion of the amendment will be resubmitted at a later time. Thus, this portion of the amendment application is considered to be withdrawn by the licensee.

For further details with respect to this action, see (1) the application for amendment dated March 24, 1995, as supplemented by letters dated July 26, 1995 and September 5, 1996, and (2) the staff's letter dated July 21, 1998.

These 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 Emporia State University, Wiliam Allen White Library, 1200 Commercial Street, Emporia, Kansas 66801 and Washburn University School of Law Library, Topeka, Kansas 66621.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 21st day of July 1998.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Kristine M. Thomas,

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

[FR Doc. 98–20109 Filed 7–27–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590–01–P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50–338 and 50–339]

Virginia Electric and Power Company, North Anna Power Station, Units 1 and 2; Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an exemption from certain requirements of its regulations with respect to Facility Operating License No. NPF–4 and Facility Operating License No. NPF–7, issued to Virginia Electric and Power Company (VEPCO, the licensee) for operation of the North Anna Power Station, Units 1 and 2 (NAPS1&2), located in Louisa County, Virginia.

Environmental Assessment

Identification of Proposed Action

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application dated March 3, 1998, as supplemented May 5, 1998, concerning the use of respiratory protection equipment which has not been tested by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health/Mine Safety and Health Administration (NIOSH/MSHA). Pursuant to 10 CFR 20.2301, the licensee has requested exemptions from the following:

1. 10 CFR 20.1703(a)(1) which requires that "* * * the licensee shall

use only respiratory protection equipment that is tested and certified or had certification extended by NIOSH/MSHA;'

2. 10 CFR 20.1703(c) which requires that ''the licensee shall use as emergency devices only respiratory protection equipment that has been specifically certified or had certification extended for emergency use by NIOSH/MSHA;'' and

3. 10 CFR Part 20 Appendix A, Protection Factors for Respirators, Footnote d.2.(d), which states, in part, that ''* * * the protection factors apply for atmosphere-supplying respirators only when supplied with adequate respirable air. Respirable air shall be provided of the quality and quantity required in accordance with NIOSH/MSHA certification (described in 30 CFR Part 11). Oxygen and air shall not be used in the same apparatus.''

The Need for the Proposed Action

Subpart H to 10 CFR Part 20, ''Respiratory Protection and Controls to Restrict Internal Exposure in Restricted Areas' states in 10 CFR 20.1702, ''When it is not practical * * * to control the concentrations of radioactive material in air to values below those that define an airborne radioactivity area, the licensee shall, consistent with maintaining the total effective dose equivalent ALARA, increase monitoring and limit intakes by * * * (c) Use of respiratory protection equipment* * *.''

It is necessary for station personnel to periodically enter containments while the units are operating in order to perform inspection or maintenance. The NAPS1&2 containments are designed to be maintained at subatmospheric pressure during power operations. The containment pressure can range from 9.0 to 11.0 pounds per square inch, absolute (psia). This containment environment could potentially impact the safety of personnel donning respiratory protection equipment, due to reduced pressure and resulting oxygen deficiency. Under these circumstances, the use of a self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) with enriched oxygen breathing gas is required. The licensee initially purchased Mine Safety Appliances, Inc. (MSA) Model 401 open-circuit, dual-purpose, pressure-demand SCBAs constructed of brass components which were originally intended for use with compressed air. The licensee qualified the Model 401 cylinders for use with 35% oxygen/65% nitrogen following the recommendations of the Compressed Gas Association's Pamphlet C–10, ''Recommended Procedures for Changes of Gas Service for Compressed Gas Cylinders,'' established procedures to utilize these devices with an enriched oxygen mixture, and is currently using these SCBAs with a 35% oxygen/65% nitrogen mixture instead of compressed air. The MSA Model 401 SCBA has received the NIOSH/MSHA certification for use with compressed air, but has not been tested for 35% enriched oxygen applications. Using these SCBAs without the NIOSH/MSHA certification requires an exemption from 10 CFR 20.1703(a)(1), 10 CFR 20.1703(c), and 10 CFR Part 20 Appendix A, Protection Factors for Respirators, Footnote d.2.(d).

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

The proposed action will not alter plant operations, result in an increase in the probability or consequences of accidents, or result in a change in occupational or offsite dose. Therefore, there are no significant radiological impacts associated with the proposed action.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed action will not result in a change in nonradiological plant effluents and will have no other nonradiological environmental impact.

Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action

Because the Commission's staff has concluded that there is no significant environmental impact associated with the proposed exemption, any alternative to the proposed exemption will have either no significantly different environmental impact or greater environmental impact. The principal alternative would be to deny the requested exemption. Denial would result in no change in current environmental impact.

Alternative Use of Resources

This action does not involve the use of resources not previously considered in connection with the Final Environmental Statement related to the operation of North Anna Power Station, Units 1 and 2, issued by the Commission in April 1973.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

In accordance with its stated policy, the NRC staff consulted with Mr. Foldesi of the Virginia Department of Health on June 23, 1998, regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. Mr. Foldesi had no comments on behalf of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Finding of No Significant Impact

Based upon the foregoing 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 exemption.

For further details with respect to this action, see the request for exemption dated March 3, 1998, as supplemented May 5, 1998, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC 20555 and at the local public document room located at the Alderman Library, Special Collections Department, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia 22903–2498.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 22nd day of July 1998.

For The Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

P.T. Kuo,

Acting Director, Project Directorate II–1, Division of Reactor Projects—I/II, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 98–20106 Filed 7–27–98; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

DATE: Weeks of July 27, August 3, 10, and 17, 1998.

PLACE: Commissioners' Conference Room, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

STATUS: Public and Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

Week of July 27

Wednesday, July 29

2:00 p.m.—Briefing on Operating Reactors and Fuel Facilities (Public Meeting), (Contact: Glenn Tracy, 301–415–1725).

4:00 p.m.—Affirmation Session (Public Meeting). *(Please note: This item will be affirmed immediately following the conclusion of the preceding meeting.) a: Private Fuel Storage, L.L.C.; Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Memorandum and Order, LBP–98–7 (April 22, 1998), (Tentative).