

These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c), (4) and (6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act.

**Janet Silva,**

*Acting Deputy Division Director.*

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## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

### Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review: Comment Request

**AGENCY:** U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

**ACTION:** Notice of the OMB review of information collection and solicitation of public comment.

**SUMMARY:** The NRC is preparing a submittal to OMB for review of continued approval of information collections under the Paperwork Reduction Act 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Information pertaining to the requirements to be submitted:

1. *The title of the information collection:* 10 CFR 81, Standard Specifications for Granting of Patent Licenses.

2. *Current OMB approval number:* 3150-0121.

3. *How often the collection is required:* Application for licenses are submitted once. Other reports are submitted annually or as other events require.

4. *Who is required or asked to report:* Applicants for and holders of NRC licenses to NRC inventions.

5. *The number of annual respondents:* 0.

6. *The number of hours needed annually to complete the requirement or request:* 35 hours; however, no applications are anticipated during the next three years.

7. *Abstract:* 10 CFR Part 81 establishes the standard specifications for the issuance of licenses to rights in inventions covered by patents or patent applications invested in the United States, as represented by or in the custody of the Commission and other patents in which the Commission has legal rights.

Submit, by March 8, 1999, comments that address the following questions:

1. Is the proposed collection of information necessary for the NRC to properly perform its functions? Does the information have practical utility?

2. Is the burden estimated accurate?

3. Is there a way to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected?

4. How can the burden of the information collection be minimized, including the use of automated collection techniques or other form of information technology?

A copy of the draft supporting statement may be viewed free of charge at the NRC Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, NW (lower level), Washington, DC. OMB clearance requests are available at the NRC worldwide web site (<http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/PUBLIC/OMB/index.html>). The document will be available on the NRC home page site for 60 days after the signature date of this notice.

Comments and questions about the information collection requirements may be directed to the NRC Clearance Officer, Brenda Jo. Shelton, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, T-6 F33, Washington, DC, 20555-0001, by telephone at 301-415-7233, or by Internet electronic mail at [BJS1@NRC.GOV](mailto:BJS1@NRC.GOV).

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 31st day of December 1998.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Brenda Jo. Shelton,**

*NRC Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

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## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50-237, 50-249, 50-254 and 50-265]

### Commonwealth Edison Company; Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendments to Facility Operating Licenses, Proposed No Significant Hazards Consideration Determination, and Opportunity for a Hearing

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of amendments to Facility Operating Licenses Nos. DPR-19 and DPR-25, issued to Commonwealth Edison Company (ComEd, the licensee) for operation of the Dresden Nuclear Power Station, Units 2 and 3, located in Grundy County, Illinois and Facility Operating Licenses Nos. DPR-29 and DPR-30, issued to ComEd for operation of Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station, Units 1 and 2, located in Rock Island County, Illinois.

The proposed amendments would relocate, to a licensee-controlled document, the requirement for removal of the Reactor Protection System (RPS) shorting links. Removal of the shorting

links enables a non-coincident scram on high neutron flux as detected by any Neutron Instrumentation. The staff's proposed no significant hazards consideration determination for the requested changes was published on December 30, 1998 (63 FR 71964).

Before issuance of the proposed license amendments, 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 amendments requested involve 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 amendments 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:

Does the change involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated?

The RPS shorting links are not precursors to any previously evaluated accident. The Source Range Monitors (SRMs), and the ability of the SRMs to provide a RPS trip, are also not precursors to any previously evaluated accident. Therefore, relocating the RPS shorting link requirement to administrative controls [the Updated Final Safety Analysis Report, (UFSAR)] will not increase the probability of an accident previously evaluated.

The RPS shorting links are not assumed to be removed in any accident analysis, and the SRMs are not assumed to provide a RPS trip in any accident analysis. The refueling interlocks and SHUTDOWN MARGIN calculations will continue to provide assurance of reactivity control. Therefore, relocating the RPS shorting link requirements to administrative controls [the UFSAR] will not increase the consequences of an accident previously evaluated.

The RPS shorting link requirements will be relocated to administrative controls that are administered pursuant to the requirements of 10 CFR 50.59, thereby reducing the level of regulatory control. The level of regulatory control has no impact on the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated.

Consequently, this proposed amendment does not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated.

Does the change create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated?