

responded to relevant concerns in Dr. Penn's letter of March 25, 1999. The responses indicate that testing and evaluations of the core shroud by NMPC and its contractors can be relied upon by the NRC with reasonable assurance as to their accuracy. Therefore, the issues in Dr. Penn's letters do not provide a sufficient basis to warrant suspension of the NMP1 operating license.

2. The bow spring modification to each of the four tie rod assemblies replaces the design function of the failed cap screw and other cap screws that have the potential for future failure. By letter dated May 28, 1999, NMPC confirmed that no additional modifications are needed other than the bow spring modification addressed in the letter of May 21, 1999. The function of the tie rod bow spring does not affect the tie rod's function of maintaining a predetermined compressive force ("preload") on the shroud during power operation. In response to NMPC's letter dated May 21, 1999, the NRC staff reviewed and approved the modifications as an alternative repair pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i) by letter dated June 7, 1999, and NMPC has implemented these modifications. With the NRC staff's review and approval of this modification, the NRC staff finds no basis to consider enforcement action to suspend the operating license.

3. During the current refueling outage, NMPC has implemented preemptive repairs of shroud vertical welds V9 and V10, as approved by the NRC staff in a letter dated April 30, 1999. These repairs mechanically restore the vertical welds. NMPC has also verbally informed the NRC that the 1997 modifications to the tie rod assemblies have performed satisfactorily and that the tie rod assemblies have applied the appropriate preload on the shroud throughout the last operating cycle. Since vertical welds V9 and V10 have been restored and the tie rods are satisfactorily performing their preload

function, the need for NRC staff review of reinspection data before restart is obviated.

4. NMPC will provide reinspection results and analyses to disposition these reinspection findings to the NRC within 30 days of completing the reinspection. This schedule is consistent with the guidelines established by the Boiling Water Reactor Vessel and Internals Project in its report BWRVIP-01, "BWR Core Shroud Inspection and Flaw Evaluation Guidelines," which the NRC staff reviewed and accepted by letter dated September 25, 1994. The NRC staff, noting the results of inspections to date and that NMPC has followed the BWRVIP generic criteria for inspection, evaluation, and repair, does not believe a public meeting is warranted prior to restart. Also, during telephone discussions with the NRC, NMPC has indicated that a meeting on reinspection results before restart would require significant participation and preparation by NMPC, involving some of the same key employees and contractors involved in outage activities. The NRC staff recognizes the value of public meetings, and to this end, a routinely scheduled meeting to discuss recent plant performance at the NMP site is planned for August 1999. This meeting will discuss a variety of topics related to licensee performance. A brief discussion on the NMP1 core shroud activities will be one of the agenda topics.

The remaining issues in the Petition are being treated pursuant to 10 CFR 2.206 of the Commission's regulations and have been referred to the Director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation. As provided by Section 2.206, appropriate action will be taken on this Petition within a reasonable time.

By letter dated June 11, 1999, the Director acknowledged receipt of the Petition. A copy of the Petition is available for inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room

at 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, D.C. 20555-0001.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 11th day of June 1999.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Roy P. Zimmerman,**

*Acting Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*

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**POSTAL RATE COMMISSION**

**Sunshine Act Meeting**

**NAME OF AGENCY:** Postal Rate Commission.

**TIME AND DATE:** 9:30 a.m., July 19, 1999.

**PLACE:** Commission Conference Room, 1333 H Street, NW, Suite 300, Washington, DC 20268-0001.

**STATUS:** Open.

**MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:** To discuss and vote on the Postal Rate Commission Budget for FY 2000 and election of a Vice Chairman.

**CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:** Margaret P. Crenshaw, Secretary, Postal Rate Commission, Suite 300, 1333 H Street, NW, Washington, DC 20268-0001, (202) 789-6840.

Dated: June 15, 1999.

**Margaret P. Crenshaw,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 99-15528 Filed 6-15-99; 12:57 pm]

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**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**Proposed Collection, Comment Request**

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Filings and Information Services, Washington, DC 20549.

Extension:

Rule 15b6-1; Form BDW .....	SEC File No. 270-17 .....	OMB Control No. 3235-0018.
Rule 15Ba2-5 .....	SEC File No. 270-91 .....	OMB Control No. 3235-0088.
Rule 15c1-5 .....	SEC File No. 270-422 .....	OMB Control No. 3235-0471.
Rule 15c1-6 .....	SEC File No. 270-423 .....	OMB Control No. 3235-0472.
Rule 15c3-1 .....	SEC File No. 270-197 .....	OMB Control No. 3235-0200.
Rule 17Ad-3(b) .....	SEC File No. 270-424 .....	OMB Control No. 3235-0473.
Rule 17Ad-17 .....	SEC File No. 270-412 .....	OMB Control No. 3235-0469.
Rule 17a-10 .....	SEC File No. 270-154 .....	OMB Control No. 3235-0122.
Rule 17f-2(c) .....	SEC File No. 270-35 .....	OMB Control No. 3235-029.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") is soliciting comments on the collection of information

summarized below. The Commission plans to submit these existing collections of information to the Office of Management and Budget for extension and approval.

Form BDW is used by broker-dealers to withdraw from registration with the Commission, the self-regulatory organizations, and the states. It is estimated that approximately 900 broker-dealers annually will incur an