

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. STN 50-528, STN 50-529, and STN 50-530]

Arizona Public Service Company; Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1, 2, and 3 Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering the issuance of amendments to make administrative changes to the Facility Operating Licenses Nos. NPF-41, NPF-51, and NPF-74, issued to Arizona Public Service Company (the licensee) for operation of the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1, 2, and 3, located in Maricopa County, Arizona.

Environmental Assessment

Identification of the Proposed Action

The proposed action would remove or correct outdated administrative information and remove completed licensing conditions from the licenses. The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application for amendments request dated December 1, 1999.

The Need for the Proposed Action

The proposed action is needed to update the Palo Verde operating licenses by removing or correcting outdated administrative information and removing completed license conditions from the licenses. This will help reduce any potential for misinterpreting the operating licensing requirements. The Palo Verde licenses were issued by the Commission to permit the operation of Palo Verde, Units 1, 2, and 3. The operating licenses include administrative information and references that were valid at the time of issuance but are now outdated. In addition, the operating licenses include many license conditions that were required by the Commission to operate Palo Verde plants but have since been completed and are no longer required. The changes consist of 21 changes to the Unit 1 license, 15 changes to the Unit 2 license, and 7 changes to the Unit 3 license.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed action and concludes that the proposed action is administrative in nature and unrelated to plant operations.

The proposed action will not significantly increase the probability or

consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types of any effluents that may be released offsite, and there is no significant increase in occupational or public radiation exposure. Therefore, there are no significant radiological impacts associated with the proposed action.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed action does not involve any historic sites. It does not affect nonradiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

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

Alternatives to the Proposed Action

As an alternative to the proposed action, the staff considered denial of the proposed action (*i.e.*, the "no-action" alternative). Denial of the application 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

The proposed action does not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement Related to the Operation of Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1, 2, and 3, dated February 1982 (NUREG-0841).

Agencies and Persons Consulted

In accordance with its stated policy, on August 24, 2000, the staff consulted with the Arizona State official, Mr. William Wright of the Arizona Radiation Protection Agency, regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comments.

Finding of No Significant Impact

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

For further details with respect to the proposed action, see the licensee's application dated December 1, 1999 (ML993430261), which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland.

Publicly available records will be accessible electronically from the ADAMS Public Library component on the NRC Web site, (the Electronic Reading Room). <http://www.nrc.gov>.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 22nd day of September 2000.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Steven D. Bloom,

Project Manager, Section 2, Project Directorate IV & Decommissioning, Division of Licensing Project Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 00-25034 Filed 9-28-00; 8:45 am]

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RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

Agency Forms Submitted for OMB Review

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) has submitted the following proposal(s) for the collection of information of the Office of Management and Budget for review and approval.

Summary of Proposal(s)

- (1) *Collection title:* Employee Reporting.
- (2) *Form(s) submitted:* AA-12, G-88A.1, and G-88A.2.
- (3) *OMB Number:* 3220-0005.
- (4) *Expiration date of current OMB clearance:* 12/31/2000.
- (5) *Type of request:* Revision of a currently approved collection.
- (6) *Respondents:* Individuals or households, Business or other for-profit.
- (7) *Estimated annual number of respondents:* 4,300.
- (8) *Total annual responses:* 4,300.
- (9) *Total annual reporting hours:* 379.
- (10) *Collection description:* Under the Railroad Retirement Act and the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act, railroad employers are required to report service and compensation for employees needed to determine eligibility to and amount of benefits paid.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS:

Copies of the forms and supporting documents can be obtained from Chuck Mierzwa, the agency clearance officer (312-751-3363). Comments regarding the information collection should be addressed to Ronald J. Hodapp, Railroad Retirement Board, 844 North Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois, 60611-2092 and the OMB reviewer, Joe Lackey (202-395-7316), Office of Management and

Budget, Room 10230, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

Chuck Mierzwa,
Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 00-25033 Filed 9-28-00; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 35-27234]

Filings Under the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935, as Amended ("Act")

September 21, 2000.

Notice is hereby given that the following filing(s) has/have been made with the Commission pursuant to provisions of the Act and rules promulgated under the Act. All interested persons are referred to the application(s) and/or declaration(s) for complete statements of the proposed transaction(s) summarized below. The application(s) and/or declaration(s) and any amendment(s) is/are available for public inspection through the Commission's Branch of Public Reference.

Interested persons wishing to comment or request a hearing on the application(s) and/or declaration(s) should submit their views in writing by October 16, 2000, to the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, Washington, D.C. 20549-0609, and serve a copy on the relevant applicant(s) and/or declarant(s) at the address(es) specified below. Proof of service (by affidavit or, in the case of an attorney at law, by certificate) should be filed with the request. Any request for hearing should identify specifically the issues of facts or law that are disputed. A person who so requests will be notified of any hearing, if ordered, and will receive a copy of any notice or order issued in the matter. After October 16, 2000, the application(s) and/or declaration(s), as filed or as amended, may be granted and/or permitted to become effective.

KeySpan Corporation, et al. (70-9699)

KeySpan Corporation ("KeySpan"), a combination gas and electric utility holding company claiming exemption from registration under section 3(a)(1) of the Act by rule 2, located at One MetroTech Center, Brooklyn, New York 11201; KeySpan's utility subsidiaries: The Brooklyn Union Gas Company d/b/a/ KeySpan Energy Delivery New York ("KeySpan New York"), located at One MetroTech Center, Brooklyn, New York 11201; KeySpan Gas East Corporation d/b/a/ KeySpan Energy Delivery Long

Island ("KeySpan Long Island"); and KeySpan Generation LLC ("KeySpan Generation"), each located at 175 East Old Country Road, Hicksville, New York 11801; KeySpan's direct nonutility subsidiaries: ACJ Acquisition LLC ("ACJ"); KeySpan Energy Corporation; KeySpan Operating Services LLC; KeySpan Exploration & Production LLC; KeySpan Technologies Inc.; KeySpan MHK, Inc., all located at One MetroTech Center, Brooklyn, New York 11201; KeySpan Corporate Services LLC ("KCS"); KeySpan Utility Services LLC ("KUS"); Marquez Development Corp; Island Energy Services Company, Inc.; LILCO Energy Systems, Inc., all located at 175 East Old Country Road, Hicksville, New York 11801; KeySpan-Ravenswood Inc.; KeySpan-Ravenswood Services Corp., each located at 38-54 Vernon Boulevard, Long Island City, New York 11101; KeySpan Services, Inc., located at Octagon 10 Office Building, 1719 Route 10, Suite 108, Parsippany, New Jersey 07054; KeySpan Energy Trading Services LLC, located at 100 East Old Country Road, Hicksville, New York 11801; and KeySpan Energy Supply LLC, located at 14-04 111th Street, College Point, New York 11356; and their respective nonutility subsidiaries; Eastern Enterprises ("Eastern"), a gas utility holding company claiming exemption from registration under section 3(a)(1) of the Act by rule 2, located at 9 Riverside Road, Weston, Massachusetts 02493; Eastern's gas utility subsidiaries: Boston Gas Company ("Boston Gas"); Essex Gas Company ("Essex Gas"); and Colonial Gas Company ("Colonial Gas"), all located at One Beacon Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02108; Eastern's direct nonutility subsidiaries: Boston Gas Services, Inc.; EE-AEM Company, Inc.; EE Acquisition Company, Inc.; EEG Acquisition Company, Inc.; Eastern Associated Capital Corp.; Eastern Associated Securities Corp.; Eastern Energy Systems Corp.; Eastern Rivermoor Company, Inc.; Eastern Urban Services, Inc.; Mystic Steamship Corporation; PCC Land Company, Inc.; Philadelphia Coke Co., Inc.; Water Products Group Incorporated; Western Associated Energy Corp., all located at 9 Riverside Road, Weston Massachusetts 02493; Midland Enterprises Inc., located at 300 Pike Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202; ServicEdge Partners, Inc.; and AMR Data Corporation, each located at 62 Second Avenue, Burlington, Massachusetts 01803; and their respective subsidiaries; and EnergyNorth, Inc. ("EnergyNorth"), a gas utility holding company claiming exemption from registration under

section 3(a)(1) of the Act by rule 2, located at 1260 Elm Street, P.O. Box 329, Manchester, New Hampshire 03105; EnergyNorth's gas utility subsidiary, EnergyNorth Natural Gas, Inc. ("ENGI"), also located at 1260 Elm Street, P.O. Box 329, Manchester, New Hampshire 03105; EnergyNorth's direct nonutility subsidiaries: Broken Bridge Corporation; EnergyNorth Realty, Inc., each located at 1260 Elm Street, P.O. Box 329, Manchester, New Hampshire 03105; EnergyNorth Propane, Inc., located at 75 Regional Drive, Concord, New Hampshire 03301; and EnergyNorth Mechanicals, Inc., located at 25 Depot Street, Manchester, Massachusetts 03101; and their respective subsidiaries (together, "Applicants"),¹ have filed an application-declaration under sections 6(a), 7, 9(a)(1), 10, 12(b), 12(c), 13(b), 32, and 33 of the Act, and rules 45, 46, 53, 54, and 80-92 under the Act.

In the Merger U-1, KeySpan and its subsidiary, ACJ, seek approvals relating to the proposed acquisition by KeySpan of all of the issued and outstanding common stock of Eastern ("Merger").² A notice of the Merger U-1 was issued on July 18, 2000 (HCAR No. 27201). Eastern also has previously filed an application-declaration with the Commission under the Act seeking approvals relating to the proposed acquisition ("Eastern/EnergyNorth Merger U-1") by Eastern of all of the outstanding common shares of EnergyNorth ("Eastern/EnergyNorth Merger"). A notice of the Eastern/EnergyNorth Merger U-1 was issued on July 18, 2000 (HCAR No. 27201). For purposes of this application-declaration, KeySpan has assumed that the Eastern/EnergyNorth Merger will be approved concurrently with the Merger. However, KeySpan states that its request for approval of the Merger is not contingent on Commission approval of the Eastern/EnergyNorth Merger, and further states that the same request applies to this application-declaration.³

Following the consummation of the Mergers, KeySpan will have seven utility subsidiaries: KeySpan New York; KeySpan Long Island; KeySpan Generation; Boston Gas; Essex Gas; Colonial Gas; and ENGI (collectively,

¹ The indirect nonutility subsidiaries of KeySpan, Eastern, and EnergyNorth are set forth in the application-declaration previously filed by KeySpan and ACJ seeking approvals relating to KeySpan's proposed acquisition of Eastern ("Merger U-1").

² KeySpan requests that the Commission review and rule on this application-declaration contemporaneously with the Merger U-1.

³ The Merger and the Eastern/EnergyNorth Merger are referred to in this notice collectively as "Mergers."