6. *An estimate of the number of responses:* A reduction of 72 responses (semi-annual to annual report).

7. *The estimated number of annual respondents:* 72 licensees.

8. *An estimate of the number of hours annually needed to complete the requirement or request:* A reduction of approximately of 9,400 hours annually (131 hours per licensee) or a reduction of 2,450 reporting hours and 6,950 of recordkeeping hours.

9. *An indication of whether Section 3504(h), Public Law 96–511 applies:* Applicable.

10. *Abstract:* 10 CFR Part 26, ''Fitness-For-Duty Programs,'' requires licensees to implement fitness-for-duty programs to assure that personnel are not under the influence of any substance or mentally or physically impaired, to retain certain records associated with the management of these programs, and to provide reports concerning the performance of the programs and certain significant events. Compliance with these requirements is mandatory for licensees subject to 10 CFR Part 26.

A revision to 10 CFR Part 26 modifies the information collection requirements to, among other less significant changes, (1) extend coverage to certain classes of fitness-for-duty programs; (2) require licensees to revise their written policy and procedure to incorporate minor administrative procedures, e.g., Medical Review Officer medical review procedures and changes to various technical guidelines contained in Appendix A of 10 CFR Part 26; (3) require all licensees to obtain information in addition to that currently provided in written form from individuals which would indicate whether the individual has a history of substance abuse; and (4) add fitness-for-duty personnel as a third class of people whose negative acts would be reported.

A copy of the final supporting statement may be viewed free of charge at the NRC Public Document Room, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Room O–1 F23, Rockville, MD 20852. OMB clearance packages 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 should be directed to the OMB reviewer listed below by March 5, 2001. Amy Farrell, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (3150–0146), NEOB–10202, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

Comments can also be submitted by telephone at (202) 395–7318.

The NRC Clearance Officer is Brenda J. Shelton, 301–415–7233.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 25th day of January 2001.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Brenda J. Shelton,

NRC Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 01–2831 Filed 2–1–01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590–01–P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50–325 and 50–324]

Carolina Power & Light Company; Brunswick Steam Electric Plant, Units 1 and 2; Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is considering issuance of an exemption from Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 50, Section 36a(a)(2) (10 CFR 50.36a(a)(2)) for Facility Operating License Nos. DPR–71 and DPR–62, issued to Carolina Power & Light Company (CP&L, the licensee) for operation of the Brunswick Steam Electric Plant, Units 1 and 2, located in Brunswick County, North Carolina.

Environmental Assessment

Identification of the Proposed

The proposed action is a one-time exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 50.36a(a)(2) to submit a Radioactive Effluent Release Report no later than 12 months from the date of the last report. Under the proposed exemption, the licensee would delay the next report by 2 months, for a total of 14 months from the previous report. This would be a one-time exemption.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application for exemption dated December 1, 2000.

The Need for the Proposed

In accordance with 10 CFR 50.36a(a)(2), each licensee is required to submit a report to the Commission annually that specifies the quantity of each of the principal radionuclides released to unrestricted areas in liquid and in gaseous effluents during the previous 12 months, including any other information as may be required by the Commission to estimate maximum potential annual radiation doses to the public resulting from effluent releases. The report must be submitted as specified in § 50.4, and the time between submission of the reports must be no longer than 12 months. CP&L has proposed an amendment to Technical Specification 5.6.3 to change the submittal date for the report to ''prior to May 1.'' The approval of the amendment necessitates the required submittal date for the year 2000 report be changed to ''prior to May 1, 2001.'' With this change, the licensee needs a one-time exemption to allow 14 months between reports.

In summary, the exemption does not affect the information required to be submitted or the time period the report covers, only the date the report is submitted.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed

The NRC has completed its evaluation of the proposed action and concludes that the proposed action involves an administrative activity (a due date change for a required report) 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 off site, and there is no significant increase in occupational or public radiation exposure. Therefore, there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

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

Alternatives to the Proposed

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

This action does not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement for the Brunswick Steam Electric Station.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

In accordance with its stated policy, on December 20, 2000, the staff consulted with Mr. Johnny James of the North Carolina Department of

Environment and Natural Resources, 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 letter dated December 1, 2000. Documents may be examined, and/or copied for a fee, at the NRC'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, http:\\www.nrc.gov (the Electronic Reading Room).

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 29th day of January 2001.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Donnie J. Ashley,

Project Manager, Section 2, Project Directorate II, Division of Licensing Project Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 01–2830 Filed 2–1–01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590–01–U

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Financial Assistance (Grants) To Support Agreement States in Closing Sites Formerly Licensed by the NRC

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is announcing the availability of financial assistance to support Agreement States in closing outstanding sites formerly licensed by the NRC. The assistance is being made available through a grant program. Eligible Agreement States that desire funding assistance should submit a written grant proposal to NRC for review and approval.

Agreement State grant proposals for file reviews and/or for conduct of initial site surveys should be submitted within 60–90 days of the publication of this announcement. Proposals for site characterization, if needed, should be submitted as soon as possible after completion of file reviews and/or initial surveys. Similarly, proposals for site remediation, if needed, should be submitted as soon as possible after completion of site characterization. Proposals that are not submitted in time for consideration under FY 2001 funds will be considered for FY 2002 funding.

ADDRESSES: Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Grants Officer, Division of Contracts and Property Management, Office of Administration, Mail Stop T–7–I–2, Washington, DC 20555.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Yvette Brown, 301–415–6507.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The NRC has been reviewing files for previously terminated licenses to determine whether there was appropriate documentation in the files that the sites were decommissioned prior to termination of the license and release of the site. A number of files have been identified for which there is insufficient documentation about site decommissioning or sealed source disposition.

Radioactive material remaining at a site located within an Agreement State, including material originally licensed by the NRC or its predecessor, is the regulatory responsibility of the Agreement State under its agreement with NRC. Therefore, an Agreement State has regulatory jurisdiction for conducting license file reviews and initial site surveys of formerly NRC licensed sites, including sites with insufficient documentation to account for sealed sources. An Agreement State also has regulatory jurisdiction for remediation of any sites identified as being contaminated.

Under section 274.i of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, the NRC is supporting Agreement States through providing funds for the purpose of reviewing files, conducting surveys, characterizing, and remediating sites formerly licensed by the NRC.

On May 24, 1999 (64 FR 28014), the NRC published a notice in the **Federal Register** (FR) that requested stakeholders' comment on the proposed grant program for Agreement States for formerly NRC licensed sites. The basis for the FY 2001–2002 cost estimates for formerly NRC licensed sites is set out in a Commission Paper-SECY–99–193, entitled ''Cost Estimates for Completion of Formerly Terminated NRC Licensed Sites Program.'' In that paper, a total of 11 Agreement States were identified that could need funding assistance to close out formerly NRC licensed sites in their States. (SECY–99–193 is available on the NRC homepage at http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/COMMISSION/SECYS/secy1999–193/1999–193scy.html.)

During the past year, the NRC staff determined that three of the 11 Agreement States, identified in SECY–99–193, have taken action to close out the formerly NRC licensed sites in their States after file review/investigation. The following eight Agreement States with remaining formerly NRC licensed sites are eligible to submit grant proposals for funding assistance: Arizona, California, Colorado, Massachusetts, New Mexico, North Dakota, New York and Texas.

On October 2, 2000, during the annual Organization of Agreement State Meeting, the NRC staff presented information on the grant program to provide Agreement State staff an opportunity to discuss the process and procedure that will be used to administer the program. Copies of the draft grant proposal for file review and/or initial survey, and the draft procedure were distributed at that meeting.

The grant program will be administered to ensure a proper, fair, and equitable use of available funds to assist Agreement States with remaining formerly NRC licensed sites to complete necessary file reviews and surveys; site characterization; and remediation, if necessary. The program will include a risk-ranking of the sites to ensure that funds are available for the ''high-risk'' sites in the event that the appropriated funds are less than requested or prove to be insufficient to fully remediate remaining identified sites. The FY 2001 funding appropriation is $1,650,000.00. The FY 2002 proposed ceiling is $1,650,000.00 pending availability of the funds.

The grant program is organized into four different kinds of proposals for funding assistance:

(1) Proposal for file review and/or initial survey;

(2) Proposal for regulatory oversight for site characterization and/or remediation;

(3) Proposal for site characterization; and

(4) Proposal for site remediation.

Each State that desires funding assistance should submit a written grant proposal to the Attention of: Grants Officer, Division of Contracts and Property Management, Office of Administration, Mail Stop T–7–I–2, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555.

An STP procedure (SA–1000), entitled ''Implementation of the Grant Program for Funding Assistance for