

that are due to the Commission by March 31, 2001.

Richard Schiff,

Acting Chief of Staff, National Indian Gaming Commission.

[FR Doc. 01-4687 Filed 2-26-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7565-01-M

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Advisory Panel for Biological Infrastructure; Notice of Meeting

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, as amended), the National Science Foundation announces the following meeting:

Name: Advisory Panel for Biological Infrastructure (1215).

Date & Time: March 15, 2001, 1 pm-5 pm; March 16, 2001, 8 am-12 pm.

Place: Room 130, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA.

Type of Meeting: Closed.

Contact Person: Ms. Carter Kinsey, Program Manager, Minority Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Program, Division of Biological Infrastructure, Room 615, NSF, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230, (703) 292-8470.

Purpose of Meeting: To provide advice and recommendations concerning proposals submitted to the NSF for financial support.

Agenda: To review and evaluate Minority Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Program proposals as part of the selection process for awards.

Reason for Closing: The proposals being reviewed include information of a proprietary or confidential nature, including technical information; financial data, such as salaries; and personal information concerning individuals associated with the proposals. These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(4) and (6) of the Government Sunshine Act.

Dated: February 21, 2001.

Susanne Bolton,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 01-4717 Filed 2-26-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-413]

Duke Energy Corporation; Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating License, Proposed No Significant Hazards Consideration Determination, and Opportunity for a Hearing

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment

to Facility Operating License No. NPF-35 issued to Duke Energy Corporation, et al., (the licensee) for operation of the Catawba Nuclear Station, Unit 1, located in York County, South Carolina.

The proposed amendment would modify the Required Actions for the Engineered Safety Feature Actuation System (ESFAS) Table 3.3.2-1, function 6.f (auxiliary feedwater (AFW), auxiliary feedwater pump train A and train B suction transfer on suction pressure—low) on a one time basis. The proposed one time change will require that if more than 1 channel of low suction pressure instrumentation becomes inoperable, the licensee will immediately enter the applicable Condition(s) or Required Action(s) for the associated AFW train made inoperable by the inoperable channels. This modification will support the timely replacement of a broken pressure switch in the Train B of AFW Suction Transfer on low suction pressure function.

Before issuance of the proposed license amendment, 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 amendment request involves 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 amendment 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:

The following discussion is a summary of the evaluation of the changes contained in this proposed amendment against the 10 CFR 50.92(c) requirements to demonstrate that all three standards are satisfied. A no significant hazards consideration is indicated if operation of the facility in accordance with the proposed amendment 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.

First Standard

Implementation of this amendment would not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated. Approval of this one time amendment will have no effect on accident probabilities or consequences. For the proposed change, the equipment referenced in the affected TS (ESFAS instrumentation) is not accident initiating equipment; therefore, there will be no impact on any accident probabilities by the approval of this amendment. The design function of the equipment is not being modified by these proposed changes. The proposed one time change is not increasing the time already evaluated for an AFW train to be out of service. Therefore, there will be no impact on any accident consequences.

Second Standard

Implementation of this one time amendment would not create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated. No new accident causal mechanisms are created as a result of NRC approval of this amendment request. No changes are being made to the plant that will introduce any new accident causal mechanisms. This one time amendment request does not impact any plant systems that are accident initiators; therefore, no new accident types can be created.

Third Standard

Implementation of this one time amendment would not involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety. Margin of safety is related to the confidence in the ability of the fission product barriers to perform their design functions during and following an accident situation. These barriers include the fuel cladding, the reactor coolant system, and the containment system. The performance of these fission product barriers will not be impacted by implementation of this proposed one time amendment. The equipment referenced in the affected TS for proposed one time change is already capable of performing as designed. Therefore, a significant reduction in the margin of safety is not created by this one time TS change.

The NRC staff has reviewed the licensee's analysis and, based on this review, it appears that the three standards of 10 CFR 50.92(c) are satisfied. Therefore, the NRC staff proposes to determine that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration.

The Commission is seeking public comments on this proposed determination. Any comments received within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice will be considered in making any final determination.

Normally, the Commission will not issue the amendment until the expiration of the 30-day notice period. However, should circumstances change during the notice period such that

failure to act in a timely way would result, for example, in derating or shutdown of the facility, the Commission may issue the license amendment before the expiration of the 30-day notice period, provided that its final determination is that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration. The final determination will consider all public and State comments received. Should the Commission take this action, it will publish in the **Federal Register** a notice of issuance and provide for opportunity for a hearing after issuance. The Commission expects that the need to take this action will occur very infrequently.

Written comments may be submitted by mail to the Chief, Rules and Directives Branch, Division of Administrative Services, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, and should cite the publication date and page number of this **Federal Register** notice. Written comments may also be delivered to Room 6D59, Two White Flint North, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Federal workdays. 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.

The filing of requests for hearing and petitions for leave to intervene is discussed below.

By March 29, 2001, the licensee may file a request for a hearing with respect to issuance of the amendment to the subject facility operating license and any person whose interest may be affected by this proceeding and who wishes to participate as a party in the proceeding must file a written request for a hearing and a petition for leave to intervene. Requests for a hearing and a petition for leave to intervene shall be filed in accordance with the Commission's "Rules of Practice for Domestic Licensing Proceedings" in 10 CFR Part 2. Interested persons should consult a current copy of 10 CFR 2.714 which is available at the Commission's Public Document Room, located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland, and accessible electronically through the ADAMS Public Electronic Reading Room link at the NRC Web site (<http://www.nrc.gov>). If a request for a hearing or petition for leave to intervene is filed by the above date, the Commission or an Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, designated by the Commission or by the Chairman of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel, will rule on the

request and/or petition; and the Secretary or the designated Atomic Safety and Licensing Board will issue a notice of hearing or an appropriate order.

As required by 10 CFR 2.714, a petition for leave to intervene shall set forth with particularity the interest of the petitioner in the proceeding, and how that interest may be affected by the results of the proceeding. The petition should specifically explain the reasons why intervention should be permitted with particular reference to the following factors: (1) The nature of the petitioner's right under the Act to be made party to the proceeding; (2) the nature and extent of the petitioner's property, financial, or other interest in the proceeding; and (3) the possible effect of any order which may be entered in the proceeding on the petitioner's interest. The petition should also identify the specific aspect(s) of the subject matter of the proceeding as to which petitioner wishes to intervene. Any person who has filed a petition for leave to intervene or who has been admitted as a party may amend the petition without requesting leave of the Board up to 15 days prior to the first prehearing conference scheduled in the 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.

If a hearing is requested, the Commission will make a final determination on the issue of no significant hazards consideration. The final determination will serve to decide when the hearing is held.

If the final determination is that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration, the Commission may issue the amendment and make it immediately effective, notwithstanding the request for a hearing. Any hearing held would take place after issuance of the amendment.

If the final determination is that the amendment request involves a significant hazards consideration, any hearing held would take place before the issuance of any amendment.

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, located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland, 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 Ms. Lisa F. Vaughn, Legal Department (PB05E), Duke Energy Corporation, 422 South Church Street, Charlotte, North Carolina 28201-1006, 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).

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated February 20, 2001, 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, and accessible electronically through the ADAMS

Public Electronic Reading Room link at the NRC Web site (<http://www.nrc.gov>).

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 21st day of February 2001.

For The Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Chandu P. Patel,

Project Manager, Section 1, Project Directorate II, Division of Licensing Project Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 01-4767 Filed 2-26-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

DATES: Weeks of February 26, March 5, 12, 19, 26, April 2, 2001.

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

STATUS: Public and Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

Week of February 26, 2001

Monday, February 26, 2001

10:15 a.m. Discussion of Intragovernmental Issues (Closed-Ex. 9) (Tentative)

2:00 p.m. Meeting with the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) (Public Meeting) (Contact: Spiros Droggitis, 301-415-2367)

This meeting will be webcast live at the Web address—www.nrc.gov/live.html

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

10:25 a.m. Affirmation Session (Public Meeting) (If needed)

10:30 a.m. Briefing on Threat Environment Assessment (Closed-Ex. 1)

Week of March 5, 2001—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the Week of March 5, 2001.

Week of March 12, 2001—Tentative

Monday, March 12, 2001

1:25 p.m. Affirmation Session (Public Meeting) (If needed)

1:30 p.m. Discussion of Management Issues (Closed-Ex. 2)

Week of March 19, 2001—Tentative

Thursday, March 22, 2001

10:25 a.m. Affirmation Session (Public Meeting) (If needed)

10:30 a.m. Meeting with Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste

(ACNW) (Public Meeting) (Contact: John Larkins, 301-415-7360)

This meeting will be webcast live at the Web address—www.nrc.gov/live.html.

Week of March 26, 2001—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the Week of March 26, 2001.

Week of April 2, 2001—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the Week of April 2, 2001.

* The schedule for Commission meetings is subject to change on short notice. To verify the status of meetings call (recording)—(301) 415-1292. Contact person for more information: David Louis Gamberoni (301) 415-1651.

The NRC Commission Meeting Schedule can be found on the Internet at: <http://www.nrc.gov/SECY/smj/schedule.htm>.

This notice is distributed by mail to several hundred subscribers; if you no longer wish to receive it, or would like to be added to the distribution, please contact the Office of the Secretary, Washington, DC 20555 (301-415-1969). In addition, distribution of this meeting notice over the Internet system is available. If you are interested in receiving this Commission meeting schedule electronically, please send an electronic message to dkw@nrc.gov.

Dated: February 22, 2001.

David Louis Gamberoni,
Technical Coordinator, Office of the Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01-4841 Filed 2-23-01; 12:48 pm]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-M

POSTAL RATE COMMISSION

Commission Briefing

AGENCY: Postal Rate Commission.

ACTION: Notice of Commission briefing.

SUMMARY: United Parcel Service (UPS) representatives will brief the Commission on a petition UPS has filed with the Department of Transportation (DOT). The petition seeks review of a DOT staff action granting a foreign forwarding license to DHL Worldwide Express.

DATES: March 1, 2001 at 10 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The briefing will be held in the Postal Rate Commission's main conference room, 1333 H St. NW., Suite 300, Washington, DC 20268.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephen L. Sharfman, General Counsel, 202-789-6820.

Dated: February 22, 2001.

Margaret P. Crenshaw,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01-4768 Filed 2-26-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7710-FW-M

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 35-27348]

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

February 21, 2001.

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 March 16, 2001, to the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, Washington, DC 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 March 16, 2001, the application(s) and/or declaration(s), as filed or as amended, may be granted and/or permitted to become effective.

Consolidated Natural Gas Company (70-9841)

Consolidated Natural Gas Company ("CNG"), 120 Tredegar Street, Richmond, VA 23219, a registered public utility holding company, has filed a declaration with the Commission under sections 6(a)(2), 7(e) and 12(e) and rules 54.62(d) and 65 of the Act.

CNG became a wholly owned subsidiary of Dominion Resources, Inc. ("DRI"), also a registered holding company under the Act, as a result of a merger approved by the Commission on December 15, 1999 (HCAR No.