

significantly affected. Any reduction in confidence that a standby system might fail to perform its safety function due to a missed surveillance is small and would not, in the absence of other unrelated failures, lead to an increase in consequences beyond those estimated by existing analyses. The addition of a requirement to assess and manage the risk introduced by the missed surveillance will further minimize possible concerns. Therefore, this change does not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated.

Criterion 2—The Proposed Change Does Not Create the Possibility of a New or Different Kind of Accident From Any Previously Evaluated

The proposed change does not involve a physical alteration of the plant (no new or different type of equipment will be installed) or a change in the methods governing normal plant operation. A missed surveillance will not, in and of itself, introduce new failure modes or effects and any increased chance that a standby system might fail to perform its safety function due to a missed surveillance would not, in the absence of other unrelated failures, lead to an accident beyond those previously evaluated. The addition of a requirement to assess and manage the risk introduced by the missed surveillance will further minimize possible concerns. Thus, this change does not create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated.

Criterion 3—The Proposed Change Does Not Involve a Significant Reduction in the Margin of Safety

The extended time allowed to perform a missed surveillance does not result in a significant reduction in the margin of safety. As supported by the historical data, the likely outcome of any surveillance is verification that the LCO is met. Failure to perform a surveillance within the prescribed frequency does not cause equipment to become inoperable. The only effect of the additional time allowed to perform a missed surveillance on the margin of safety is the extension of the time until inoperable equipment is discovered to be inoperable by the missed surveillance. However, given the rare occurrence of inoperable equipment, and the rare occurrence of a missed surveillance, a missed surveillance on inoperable equipment would be very unlikely. This must be balanced against the real risk of manipulating the plant equipment or condition to perform the

missed surveillance. In addition, parallel trains and alternate equipment are typically available to perform the safety function of the equipment not tested. Thus, there is confidence that the equipment can perform its assumed safety function.

Therefore, this change does not involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety.

Based upon the reasoning presented above and the previous discussion of the amendment request, the requested change does not involve a significant hazards consideration.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 8th day of June 2001.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Robert L. Dennig,

Acting Chief, Technical Specification Branch, Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 01-14978 Filed 6-13-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

Sunshine Act Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Railroad Retirement Board will hold a meeting on June 20, 2001, 9:00 a.m., at the Board's meeting room on the 8th floor of its headquarters building, 844 North Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois, 60611. The agenda for this meeting follows:

Portion open to the public:

- (1) OMB Bulletin No. 01-07, Workforce Planning & Restructuring.

Portion closed to the public:

- (A) Reassignment of Ms. Ruby Bland.

The person to contact for more information is Beatrice Ezerski, Secretary to the Board, Phone No. 312-751-4920.

Dated: June 11, 2001.

Beatrice Ezerski,

Secretary to the Board.

[FR Doc. 01-15104 Filed 6-12-01; 10:07 am]

BILLING CODE 7905-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 3698]

Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs Request for Grant Proposals: Edmund S. Muskie/FREEDOM Support Act Graduate Fellowship Program

Summary

Subject to the availability of funds, the Office of Academic Exchange

Programs of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs announces an open competition for an assistance award. Public and private non-profit organizations meeting the provisions described in IRS regulation 26 CFR 1.501(c) may submit proposals to administer the selection, placement, monitoring, evaluation, follow-on, and alumni activities for the FY 2002 Edmund S. Muskie/FREEDOM Support Act Graduate Fellowship Program. Proposals should include provisions for the recruitment of FY 2003 fellows.

The Edmund S. Muskie/FREEDOM Support Act Graduate Fellowship Program (herein referred to as the Muskie/FSA Program) selects outstanding citizens from the New Independent States (NIS) to receive fellowships for Master's level study in the United States in the fields of business administration, economics, education, environmental management, international affairs, law, library and information science, journalism/mass communications, public administration, public health, and public policy. Fellowships are granted to qualified individuals who are citizens of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, or Uzbekistan. Muskie/FSA Program fellows will be enrolled in graduate degree, certificate, and non-degree programs lasting one to two academic years, with the majority enrolled in two-year degree-granting programs. It is estimated that approximately 330 fellows will receive fellowships under the FY 2002 program. Interested organizations should read the entire **Federal Register** announcement for all information prior to preparing proposals.

Organizations with less than four years of experience in conducting international exchange programs are not eligible for this competition.

Program Information

Overview: The Muskie/FSA Program is designed to foster democratization and the transition to market economies in the NIS through intensive academic study and professional training. The academic component of the program begins in the fall semester of the year following the award (in this case 2002). Fellows may participate in a nine, twelve, eighteen, or twenty-four month academic program. Fellows also take part in an eight to twelve week internship during the summer following the first academic year, with an option for a second internship following the second year of study. Fellows must return to their home countries at the