

Programs at the October 15, 2001 deadline.

**Laura S. Nelson,**

*Advisory Committee Management Officer.*

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**BILLING CODE 7536-01-M**

## **NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

### **Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request**

**AGENCY:** U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

**ACTION:** Notice of pending NRC action to submit an information collection request to OMB and solicitation of public comment.

**SUMMARY:** The NRC is preparing a submittal to OMB for review of continued approval of information collections under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Information pertaining to the requirement to be submitted:

1. *The title of the information collection:* NRC Form 64, "Travel Voucher (Part 1)" NRC Form 64A, "Travel Voucher (Part 2)" NRC Form 64B, "Optional Travel Voucher (Part 2)".
2. *Current OMB approval number:* 3150-0192.
3. *How often the collection is required:* On occasion.
4. *Who is required or asked to report:* Contractors, consultants and invited NRC travelers who travel in the course of conducting business for the NRC.
5. *The number of annual respondents:* 100.
6. *The number of hours needed annually to complete the requirement or request:* 100.
7. *Abstract:* As a part of completing the travel process, the traveler must file travel reimbursement vouchers and trip reports. The respondent universe for the above forms includes consultants and contractors and those who are invited by the NRC to travel, e.g., prospective employees. Travel expenses that are reimbursed are confined to those expenses essential to the transaction of official business for an approved trip.

Submit, by February 28, 2002, comments that address the following questions:

1. Is the proposed collection of information necessary for the NRC to properly perform its functions? Does the information have practical utility?
2. Is the burden estimate accurate?

3. Is there a way to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected?

4. How can the burden of the information collection be minimized, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology?

A copy of the draft 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 requests 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 about the information collection requirements may be directed to the NRC Clearance Officer, Brenda Jo. Shelton, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, T-6 E 6, Washington, DC, 20555-0001, by telephone at 301-415-7233, or by Internet electronic mail at [BJS1@NRC.GOV](mailto:BJS1@NRC.GOV).

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 20th day of December 2001.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Brenda Jo. Shelton,**

*NRC Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

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## **NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

**[Docket No. 50-219]**

### **AmerGen Energy Company, LLC (Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station); Exemption**

**I**

AmerGen Energy Company (AmerGen or the licensee) is the holder of Facility Operating License No. DPR-16, which authorizes operation of the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station at power levels not to exceed 1930 megawatts thermal. The facility consists of one boiling-water reactor located at the licensee's site in Ocean County, New Jersey. The license provides, among other things, that the licensee is subject to all rules, regulations, and orders of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or Commission) now or hereafter in effect.

**II**

Section IV.F.2.b of Appendix E to Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR) part 50 requires

each licensee at each site to conduct an exercise of its onsite emergency plan every 2 years and indicates the exercise may be included in the biennial exercise required by paragraph 2.c. Paragraph 2.c requires offsite plans for each site to be exercised biennially with participation by each offsite authority having a role under the plan.

During such biennial exercises, the NRC evaluates onsite emergency preparedness activities and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) evaluates offsite emergency preparedness activities. The licensee successfully conducted a full-participation exercise for Oyster Creek on October 5, 1999. By letter dated October 8, 2001, the licensee requested an exemption from Section IV.F.2.c of Appendix E regarding the conduct of a full-participation exercise originally scheduled for October 16, 2001. Specifically, the licensee proposed rescheduling the exercise originally scheduled for October 16, 2001, to sometime before the end of 2002. However, the next exercise will continue to be scheduled biennially from 2001.

AmerGen is among several licensees requesting exercise exemptions in the wake of the National Emergency of September 11, 2001. It is recognized that it was not appropriate to conduct an exercise during the period of disruption and heightened security directly after the National Emergency. The State of New Jersey was initially involved with the recovery response to the National Emergency and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region II is deeply involved with recovery efforts in New York City. Further, New Jersey has been deeply involved with the response to mail-based terrorism in the weeks that followed the National Emergency. Considering the extraordinary circumstances, a scheduler exemption was expected and is acceptable. However, in this period of heightened security concerns regarding nuclear plant vulnerability, it is prudent to conduct the full-participation exercise as soon as practical to demonstrate (and maintain) readiness.

The licensee is faced with a difficult task to coordinate and schedule an exercise that involves multiple governmental agencies at the Federal, State, and local level. Many local response organizations depend on volunteers. In order to accommodate this difficult task, the NRC has allowed licensees to schedule full-participation exercises at any time during the calendar biennium. This gives the licensee the flexibility to schedule the exercise within a 12- to 36-month