

XI, Appendix G procedure. ASME Code, Section XI, Appendix G procedure was conservatively developed based on the level of knowledge existing in 1974 concerning reactor pressure vessel materials and the estimated effects of operation. Since 1974, the level of knowledge about these topics has been greatly expanded. This increased knowledge permits relaxation of the ASME Code, Section XI, Appendix G, requirements via application of ASME Code Case N-640 while maintaining the underlying purpose of the ASME Code, Section XI, Appendix G procedure. The restriction of the P-T operating and test curves developed in accordance with ASME Code, Section XI, Appendix G procedure would challenge the operations staff when operating at lower temperatures.

Continued operation with P-T curves developed in accordance with the ASME Code, Section XI without relief would unnecessarily restrict the P-T operating window for IP2. This would constitute an unnecessary burden that can be alleviated by the application of ASME Code Case N-588 in the development of the proposed P-T curves. Implementation of the proposed P-T curves as allowed by ASME Code Case N-588 would not reduce the margin of safety originally contemplated by either the NRC or ASME.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

The NRC has completed its evaluation of the proposed action and concludes as set forth below, there are no significant environmental impacts associated with the use of the alternative analysis methods to support the revision of the P-T curves.

The proposed action will not significantly increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types of 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 nonradiological impacts, the proposed action does not have a potential to affect 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 NRC concludes that there are no significant environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Environmental Impacts of the 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 action does not involve the use of any different resource than those previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement for the Indian Point Nuclear Generating Unit No. 3, dated September 1972.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

On January 31, 2002, the staff consulted with the New York State official, Ms. Alyse Peterson of the New York State Research and Development Authority, 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 July 16, 2001, as supplemented by letter dated January 11, 2002. Documents may be examined, and/or copied for a fee, at the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR), located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland. Publicly available records will be accessible electronically from the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Public Electronic Reading Room on the internet at the NRC Web site, <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm.html>. Persons who do not have access to ADAMS or who encounter problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, should contact the NRC PDR Reference staff by telephone at 1-800-397-4209 or 301-415-4737, or by e-mail to pdr@nrc.gov.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 11th day of February 2002.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Joel T. Munday,

Acting Chief, Section 1, Project Directorate 1, Division of Licensing Project Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 02-3751 Filed 2-14-02; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste; Notice of Meeting

The Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW) will hold a Planning and Procedures Meeting during February 27-March 1, 2002, at the Four Points Sheraton-Tucson University Plaza, 1900 E. Speedway Blvd., Tucson, Arizona.

The meeting will be open to public attendance, with the exception of a portion that may be closed pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b(c) (2) and (6) to discuss organizational and personnel matters that relate solely to internal personnel rules and practices of ACNW, and information the release of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

The agenda for the subject meeting shall be as follows:

Wednesday, February 27, 2002—8:30 a.m. Until the Conclusion of Business

The Committee will discuss the adequacy of the process for conducting ACNW business including a facilitated discussion on improving Committee effectiveness and efficiency. In addition, it will discuss insights gained from the Waste Management 2002 Conference and the issues the ACNW should address in 2002.

Thursday, February 28, 2002—8:30 a.m. Until the Conclusion of Business

The Committee will discuss its existing mission and objectives, its effectiveness during the past year, and possible process improvements that could result in increased effectiveness during 2002.

Friday, March 1, 2002—8:30 a.m. Until the Conclusion of Business

The Committee will summarize its consensus on issues, consider its draft report on the NRC Safety Research Program, and finalize its March 20, 2002 Commission briefing presentation.

Oral statements may be presented by members of the public with the concurrence of the Chairman; written statements will be accepted and made available to the Committee. Electronic recordings will be permitted only during those portions of the meeting that are open to the public, and

questions may be asked only by members of the Committee, its consultants, and staff. Persons desiring to make oral statements should notify the cognizant ACNW staff person named below five days prior to the meeting, if possible, so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Further information regarding topics to be discussed, the scheduling of sessions open to the public, whether the meeting has been canceled or rescheduled, the Chairman's ruling on requests for the opportunity to present oral statements, and the time allotted therefor can be obtained by contacting the cognizant ACNW staff person, Howard J. Larson (telephone: 301/415-6805) between 7:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. (EST). Persons planning to attend this meeting are urged to contact the above named individual one or two working days prior to the meeting to be advised of any changes in schedule that may have occurred.

Dated: February 8, 2002.

Sher Bahadur,

Associate Director for Technical Support, ACRS/ACNW.

[FR Doc. 02-3752 Filed 2-14-02; 8:45 am]

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PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION

Required Interest Rate Assumption for Determining Variable-Rate Premium; Interest Assumptions for Multiemployer Plan Valuations Following Mass Withdrawal

AGENCY: Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

ACTION: Notice of interest rates and assumptions.

SUMMARY: This notice informs the public of the interest rates and assumptions to be used under certain Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation regulations. These rates and assumptions are published elsewhere (or can be derived from rates published elsewhere), but are collected and published in this notice for the convenience of the public. Interest rates are also published on the PBGC's Web site (<http://www.pbgc.gov>).

DATES: The required interest rate for determining the variable-rate premium under part 4006 applies to premium payment years beginning in February 2002. The interest assumptions for performing multiemployer plan valuations following mass withdrawal under part 4281 apply to valuation dates occurring in March 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Harold J. Ashner, Assistant General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, 1200 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20005, 202-326-4024. (TTY/TDD users may call the Federal relay service toll-free at 1-800-877-8339 and ask to be connected to 202-326-4024.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Variable-Rate Premiums

Section 4006(a)(3)(E)(iii)(II) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and § 4006.4(b)(1) of the PBGC's regulation on Premium Rates (29 CFR part 4006) prescribe use of an assumed interest rate (the "required interest rate") in determining a single-employer plan's variable-rate premium. The required interest rate is the "applicable percentage" (currently 85 percent) of the annual yield on 30-year Treasury securities for the month preceding the beginning of the plan year for which premiums are being paid (the "premium payment year"). The yield figure is reported in Federal Reserve Statistical Release H.15.

The required interest rate to be used in determining variable-rate premiums for premium payment years beginning in February 2002 is 4.63 percent (*i.e.*, 85 percent of the 5.45 percent yield figure for January 2002).

The following table lists the required interest rates to be used in determining variable-rate premiums for premium payment years beginning between March 2001 and February 2002.

For premium payment years beginning in:	The required interest rate is:
March 2001	4.63
April 2001	4.54
May 2001	4.80
June 2001	4.91
July 2001	4.82
August 2001	4.77
September 2001	4.66
October 2001	4.66
November 2001	4.52
December 2001	4.35
January 2002	4.66
February 2002	4.63

Multiemployer Plan Valuations Following Mass Withdrawal

The PBGC's regulation on Duties of Plan Sponsor Following Mass Withdrawal (29 CFR part 4281) prescribes the use of interest assumptions under the PBGC's regulation on Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans (29 CFR part 4044). The interest assumptions applicable to valuation dates in March 2002 under part 4044 are contained in

an amendment to part 4044 published elsewhere in today's **Federal Register**. Tables showing the assumptions applicable to prior periods are codified in appendix B to 29 CFR part 4044.

Issued in Washington, DC, on this 8th day of February 2002.

Steven A. Kandarian,

Executive Director, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

[FR Doc. 02-3780 Filed 2-14-02; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the Government in the Sunshine Act, Pub. L. 94-409, that the Securities and Exchange Commission will hold the following meetings during the week of February 18, 2002: A closed meeting will be held on Thursday, February 21, 2002, at 10 a.m.

Commissioners, Counsel to the Commissioners, the Secretary to the Commission, and recording secretaries will attend the closed meeting. Certain staff members who have an interest in the matters may also be present.

The General Counsel of the Commission, or his designee, has certified that, in his opinion, one or more of the exemptions set forth in 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(3), (5), (7), (9)(B), and (10) and 17 CFR 200.402(a)(3), (5), (7), 9(ii) and (10), permit consideration of the scheduled matters at the closed meeting.

The subject matter of the closed meeting scheduled for Thursday, February 21, 2002, will be:

Institution and settlement of injunctive actions;

Institution and settlement of administrative proceedings of an enforcement nature; and

Formal orders of investigation.

At times, changes in Commission priorities require alterations in the scheduling of meeting items. For further information and to ascertain what, if any, matters have been added, deleted or postponed, please contact: The Office of the Secretary at (202) 942-7070.

Dated: February 12, 2002.

Jonathan G. Katz,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 02-3829 Filed 2-12-02; 4:12 pm]

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