

3. Leadership and creativity has inspired others to distinguished careers in science and technology.

4. Contributed to the welfare of the Nation and mankind through activities in science and technology.

5. Leadership and creativity has helped mold the history of advancements in the Nation's science, technology, and education.

Nomination submissions are in letter format, accompanied by a curriculum vitae (without publication), a brief citation summarizing the nominee's scientific or technological contributions to our national welfare in promotion of the progress of science, and two reference letters. Nominations remain active for three years, including the year of nomination.

• *NSB Public Service Award.* The NSB Public Service Award Committee was established in November 1996. This annual award recognizes people and organizations who have increased the public understanding of science or engineering. This award is given to an individual and to a group (company, corporation, or organization), but not to members of the U.S. Government.

Eligibility includes any individual or group (company, corporation or organization) that has increased the public understanding of science or engineering. Members of the U.S. Government are not eligible for consideration.

Candidates for the individual and group (company, corporation or organization) award must have made contributions to public service in areas other than research, and should meet one or more of the following criteria:

1. Increased the public's understanding of the processes of science and engineering through scientific discovery, innovation and its communication to the public.
2. Encouraged others to help raise the public understanding of science and technology.
3. Promoted the engagement of scientists and engineers in public outreach and scientific literacy.
4. Contributed to the development of broad science and engineering policy and its support.
5. Influenced and encouraged the next generation of scientists and engineers.
6. Achieved broad recognition outside the nominee's area of specialization.
7. Fostered awareness of science and technology among broad segments of the population.

#### Nomination Procedures

1. Prepare a summary of the nominee's activities as they relate to the selection criteria. Include the

nominator's name, address and telephone number, and the name, address, and telephone number of the nominee, as well as the nominee's vita, if appropriate (no more than three pages).

2. The selection committee recommends the most outstanding candidate(s) for each category to the NSB, which approves the awardees.

3. Nominations remain active for a period of three years, including the year of nomination. After that time, candidates must be renominated with a new nomination package for them to be considered by the selection committee.

4. Nominations should be mailed or faxed to the NSB Public Service Award Advisory Committee. Electronic mail does not protect confidentiality and should not be used for this purpose.

*Estimate of Burden:* These are annual programs with application deadlines varying according to the program. Public burden also may vary according to program; however, it is estimated that each submission is averaged to be 15 hours per respondent for each program. If the nominator is thoroughly familiar with the scientific background of the nominee, time spent to complete the nomination may be considerably reduced.

*Respondents:* Individuals, businesses or other for-profit organizations, universities, non-profit institutions, and Federal and State governments.

*Estimated Number of Responses per Award:* 137 responses, broken down as follows: For the President's National Medal of Science, 55; for the Alan T. Waterman Award, 50; for the Vannevar Bush Award, 12; for the Public Service Award, 20.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 1,242 hours, broken down by 450 hours for the President's National Medal of Science (10 hours per 45 respondents); 600 hours for the Alan T. Waterman Award (10 hours per 60 respondents); 72 hours for the Vannevar Bush Award (6 hours per 12 respondents); and 120 hours for the Public Service Award (6 hours per 20 respondents).

*Frequency of Responses:* Annually.

*Comments:* Comments are invited on (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of

information technology; or (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Dated: February 21, 2002.

**Suzanne H. Plimpton,**

*Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.*

[FR Doc. 02-4542 Filed 2-25-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

## NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

### Sunshine Act Meeting

**TIME AND PLACE:** 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, March 5, 2002.

**PLACE:** NTSB Conference Center, 429 L'Enfant Plaza SW., Washington, DC 20594.

**STATUS:** The two items are Open to the Public.

#### MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

7444—Railroad Accident Brief and Safety Recommendation Letters—Derailment of Amtrak Train No. 5-17 on Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Track near Nodaway, Iowa, March 17, 2001.

7445—Railroad Accident Report—Derailment of CSX Transportation Coal Train V986-26 at Bloomington, Maryland, January 30, 2000.

News Media Contact: Telephone: (202) 314-6100.

Individuals requesting specific accommodations should contact Ms. Carolyn Dargan at (202) 314-6305 by Friday, March 1, 2002.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Vicky D'Onofrio, (202) 314-6410.

Dated: February 22, 2002.

**Vicky D'Onofrio,**

*Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

[FR Doc. 02-4656 Filed 2-22-02; 2:15 pm]

BILLING CODE 7533-01-M

## NEIGHBORHOOD REINVESTMENT CORPORATION

### Regular Board of Directors Meeting; Sunshine Act

**TIME AND DATE:** 2 PM, Thursday, February 28, 2002.

**PLACE:** Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation, 1325 G Street, NW., Suite 800, Washington, DC 20005.

**STATUS:** Open.

**CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

Jeffrey T. Bryson, General Counsel/  
Secretary, 202-220-2372.

**AGENDA:**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Introductions
- III. Approval of Minutes—12/17/2001
- IV. Audit Committee Report—1/22/2002
  - A. Financial Statements
  - B. OMB A-133 Report
- V. Budget Committee Report—1/31/2002
- VI. Resolution Appreciation
- VII. Treasurer's Report
- VIII. Executive Directors Management Report
  - A. NHSA
  - B. Campaign on Homeownership Presentation
- IX. Adjournment

Jeffrey T. Bryson,

General Counsel/Secretary.

[FR Doc. 02-4556 Filed 2-21-02; 4:11 pm]

BILLING CODE 7570-01-M

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-334]

### FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company, Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit No. 1; Exemption

#### 1.0 Background

The FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company (FENOC/the licensee) is the holder of Facility Operating License No. DPR-66 which authorizes operation of Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit No. 1 (BVPS-1). The license provides, among other things, that the facility is subject to all rules, regulations, and orders of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC, the Commission) now or hereafter in effect.

The facility consists of a pressurized-water reactor located in Beaver County, Pennsylvania.

#### 2.0 Discussion

Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR), Section 50.60(a), requires that "all light-water nuclear power reactors . . . must meet the fracture toughness and material surveillance program requirements for the reactor coolant pressure boundary set forth in appendices G and H to this part." appendix G to 10 CFR part 50 requires that pressure-temperature (P-T) limits be established for reactor pressure vessels (RPVs) during normal operating and hydrostatic or leak rate testing conditions. Specifically, Appendix G to 10 CFR part 50 states that "[t]he appropriate requirements on \* \* \* the

pressure-temperature limits and minimum permissible temperature must be met for all conditions." Further, Appendix G of 10 CFR Part 50 specifies that the requirements for these limits are based on the application of evaluation procedures given in Appendix G to Section XI of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Code. In this exemption, consistent with the current provisions of 10 CFR 50.55(a), all references made to the ASME Code denote the 1995 Edition of the ASME Code, including the 1996 Addenda.

In order to support a proposed amendment to the BVPS-1 Technical Specification (TS) P-T limit curves, FENOC requested in its application dated June 29, 2001, that the staff exempt BVPS-1 from application of specific requirements of 10 CFR Part 50, Section 50.60(a), and 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix G, and substitute use of ASME Code Case N-640. ASME Code Case N-640 permits the use of an alternate reference fracture toughness curve for RPV materials for use in determining the P-T limits. The proposed exemption is consistent with, and is needed to support, the BVPS-1 TS amendment request that was contained in the same application. The proposed BVPS-1 TS amendment will revise the P-T limits for heatup, cooldown, and inservice test limitations for the reactor coolant system (RCS) to 22 effective full power years (EFPYs).

The proposed TS amendment to revise the P-T limits for BVPS-1 relies in part on the requested exemption. These revised P-T limits have been developed using the lower bound  $K_{IC}$  fracture toughness curve shown in ASME Code Section XI, Appendix A, Figure A-2200-1, as the basis fracture toughness curve for defining the BVPS-1 P-T limits in lieu of using the lower bound  $K_{IA}$  fracture toughness curve of ASME Code Section XI, Appendix G, Figure G-2210-1. The other margins involved with the ASME Code, Section XI, Appendix G, process of determining P-T limit curves remain unchanged.

Use of the  $K_{IC}$  curve as the basis fracture toughness curve for the development of P-T operating limits is more technically correct than use of the  $K_{IA}$  curve. The  $K_{IC}$  curve appropriately implements the use of a relationship based on static initiation fracture toughness behavior to evaluate the controlled heatup and cooldown process of an RPV, whereas the  $K_{IA}$  fracture toughness curve codified into Appendix G to Section XI of the ASME Code was developed from more conservative crack arrest and dynamic fracture toughness test data. The application of the  $K_{IA}$  fracture toughness

curve was initially codified in Appendix G to Section XI of the ASME Code in 1974 to provide a conservative representation of RPV material fracture toughness. This initial conservatism was necessary due to the limited knowledge of RPV material behavior in 1974. However, additional knowledge has been gained about RPV materials which demonstrates that the lower bound on fracture toughness provided by the  $K_{IA}$  fracture toughness curve is well beyond the margin of safety required to protect public health and safety from potential RPV failure. In addition, P-T limit curves based on the  $K_{IC}$  fracture toughness curve will enhance overall plant safety by opening the P-T operating window with the greatest safety benefit in the region of low-temperature operations. The operating window through which the operator heats up and cools down the RCS is determined by the difference between the maximum allowable pressure determined by Appendix G of ASME Code, Section XI, and the minimum required pressure for the reactor coolant pump (RCP) seals adjusted for instrument uncertainties. A narrow operating window could potentially have an adverse safety impact by increasing the possibility of inadvertent overpressure protection system (OPPS) actuation. This OPPS actuation could be caused by pressure surges associated with normal plant evolutions such as starting RCS pumps or switching operating charging pumps while the RCS is in a water-solid condition.

Since the RCS P-T operating window is defined by the P-T operating and test limit curves developed in accordance with the ASME Code, Section XI, Appendix G procedure, continued operation of BVPS-1 with these P-T curves without the relief provided by ASME Code Case N-640 may unnecessarily restrict the P-T operating window, especially at low-temperature conditions. The operating window becomes more restrictive with continued reactor vessel service. Therefore, the licensee concluded that these considerations were special circumstances pursuant to 10 CFR 50.12(a)(2)(iii), regarding undue hardship, and requested the exemption to use the provisions of ASME Code Case N-640 in the development of BVPS-1 RPV P-T limit curves.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has reviewed the exemption request submitted by FENOC and has concluded that an exemption should be granted to permit the licensee to use the provisions of ASME Code Case N-640 for the purpose of developing BVPS-1 RPV P-T limit curves. However, the