

locations other than at NRC facilities, reproduction facilities may not be available at a reasonable cost. Accordingly, 25 additional copies of the materials to be used during the meeting should be provided for distribution at such meetings.

Special Provisions When Proprietary Sessions Are To Be Held

If it is necessary to hold closed sessions for the purpose of discussing matters involving proprietary information, persons with agreements permitting access to such information may attend those portions of the ACNW meetings where this material is being discussed upon confirmation that such agreements are effective and related to the material being discussed.

The Designated Federal Official should be informed of such an agreement at least five working days prior to the meeting so that it can be confirmed, and a determination can be made regarding the applicability of the agreement to the material that will be discussed during the meeting. The minimum information provided should include information regarding the date of the agreement, the scope of material included in the agreement, the project or projects involved, and the names and titles of the persons signing the agreement. Additional information may be requested to identify the specific agreement involved. A copy of the executed agreement should be provided to the Designated Federal Official prior to the beginning of the meeting for admittance to the closed session.

Dated: October 7, 2002.

Andrew L. Bates,

Advisory Committee Management Officer.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards; Procedures for Meetings

Background

This notice describes procedures to be followed with respect to meetings conducted by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA). These procedures are set forth so that they may be incorporated by reference in future notices for individual meetings.

The ACRS is a statutory group established by Congress to review and report on nuclear safety matters and

applications for the licensing of nuclear facilities. The Committee's reports become a part of the public record.

The ACRS meetings are conducted in accordance with FACA; they are normally open to the public and provide opportunities for oral or written statements from members of the public to be considered as part of the Committee's information gathering process. ACRS reviews do not normally encompass matters pertaining to environmental impacts other than those related to radiological safety.

The ACRS meetings are not adjudicatory hearings such as those conducted by the NRC's Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel as part of the Commission's licensing process.

General Rules Regarding ACRS Meetings

An agenda is published in the **Federal Register** for each full Committee meeting. There may be a need to make changes to the agenda to facilitate the conduct of the meeting. The Chairman of the Committee is empowered to conduct the meeting in a manner that, in his/her judgment, will facilitate the orderly conduct of business, including making provisions to continue the discussion of matters not completed on the scheduled day on another meeting day. Persons planning to attend the meeting may contact the Designated Federal Official specified in the **Federal Register** Notice prior to the meeting to be advised of any changes to the agenda that may have occurred. This individual can be contacted between 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., Eastern Time.

The following requirements shall apply to public participation in ACRS full Committee meetings:

(a) Persons wishing to submit written comments regarding the agenda items may do so by sending a readily reproducible copy addressed to the Designated Federal Official specified in the **Federal Register** Notice, care of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555. Comments should be limited to items being considered by the Committee. Comments should be in the possession of the Designated Federal Official prior to the meeting to allow time for reproduction and distribution. Written comments may also be submitted by providing a readily reproducible copy to the Designated Federal Official at the beginning of the meeting.

(b) Persons desiring to make oral statements at the meeting should make a request to do so to the Designated Federal Official. If possible, the request should be made five days before the

meeting, identifying the topics to be discussed and the amount of time needed for presentation so that orderly arrangements can be made. The Committee will hear oral statements on topics being reviewed at an appropriate time during the meeting as scheduled by the Chairman.

(c) Information regarding topics to be discussed, changes to the agenda, whether the meeting has been canceled or rescheduled, and the time allotted to present oral statements can be obtained by contacting the Designated Federal Official between 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., Eastern Time.

(d) The use of still, motion picture, and television cameras will be permitted at the discretion of the Chairman and subject to the condition that the physical installation and presence of such equipment will not interfere with the conduct of the meeting. The Designated Federal Official will have to be notified prior to the meeting and will authorize the installation or use of such equipment after consultation with the Chairman. The use of such equipment will be restricted as is necessary to protect proprietary or privileged information that may be in documents, folders, etc., in the meeting room. Electronic recordings will be permitted only during those portions of the meeting that are open to the public.

(e) A transcript is kept for certain open portions of the meeting and will be available in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR), One White Flint North, Room O-1F21, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852-2738. ACRS meeting agenda, transcripts, and letter reports are available through the NRC Public Document Room at pdr@nrc.gov, by calling the PDR at 1-800-394-4209, or from the Publicly Available Records System (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS) which is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> or <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/>. A copy of the certified minutes of the meeting will be available at the same location on or before three months following the meeting. Copies may be obtained upon payment of appropriate reproduction charges.

(f) Video teleconferencing service is available for observing open sessions of ACRS meetings. Those wishing to use this service for observing ACRS meetings should contact Mr. Theron Brown, ACRS Audio Visual Technician, (301-415-8066) between 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Eastern Time at least 10 days before the meeting to ensure the availability of this service.

Individuals or organizations requesting this service will be responsible for telephone line charges and for providing the equipment and facilities that they use to establish the video teleconferencing link. The availability of video teleconferencing services is not guaranteed.

ACRS Subcommittee Meetings

In accordance with the revised FACA, the agency is no longer required to apply the FACA requirements to meetings conducted by the Subcommittees of the NRC Advisory Committees, if the Subcommittee's recommendations would be independently reviewed by its parent Committee.

The ACRS, however, chose to conduct its Subcommittee meetings in accordance with the above procedures, as appropriate, to facilitate public participation and to provide a forum to stakeholders to express their views on regulatory matters being considered by the ACRS. When Subcommittee meetings are held at locations other than at NRC facilities, reproduction facilities may not be available at a reasonable cost. Accordingly, 25 additional copies of the materials to be used during the meeting should be provided for distribution at such meetings.

Special Provisions When Proprietary Sessions Are To Be Held

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The Designated Federal Official should be informed of such an agreement at least five working days prior to the meeting so that it can be confirmed, and a determination can be made regarding the applicability of the agreement to the material that will be discussed during the meeting. The minimum information provided should include information regarding the date of the agreement, the scope of material included in the agreement, the project or projects involved, and the names and titles of the persons signing the agreement. Additional information may be requested to identify the specific agreement involved. A copy of the executed agreement should be provided to the Designated Federal Official prior to the beginning of the meeting for admittance to the closed session.

Dated: October 7, 2002.

Andrew L. Bates,

Advisory Committee Management Officer.

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PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION

Proposed Submission of Information Collection for OMB Review; Comment Request; Survey of Nonparticipating Single Premium Group Annuity Rates

AGENCY: Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

ACTION: Notice of intention to request extension of OMB approval.

SUMMARY: The Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation ("PBGC") intends to request that the Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") extend approval, under the Paperwork Reduction Act, of a collection of information that is not contained in a regulation (OMB control number 1212-0030; expires January 31, 2003). This voluntary collection of information is a quarterly survey of insurance company rates for pricing annuity contracts. The survey is conducted by the American Council of Life Insurers for the PBGC. This notice informs the public of the PBGC's intent and solicits public comment on the collection of information.

DATES: Comments should be submitted by December 10, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed to the Office of the General Counsel, suite 340, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, 1200 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20005-4026, or delivered to that address during normal business hours.

Copies of the collection of information may be obtained without charge by writing to the PBGC's Communications and Public Affairs Department at the above address or by visiting that office or calling 202-326-4040 during normal business hours. (TTY and TDD users may call the Federal relay service toll-free at 1-800-877-8339 and ask to be connected to 202-326-4040.)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Deborah C. Murphy, Attorney, Office of the General Counsel, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, 1200 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20005-4026, 202-326-4024. (TTY and TDD users may call the Federal relay service toll-free at 1-800-877-8339 and request connection to 202-326-4024).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation's

regulations prescribe actuarial valuation methods and assumptions (including interest rate assumptions) to be used in determining the actuarial present value of benefits under single-employer plans that terminate (29 CFR part 4044) and under multiemployer plans that undergo a mass withdrawal of contributing employers (29 CFR part 4281). Each month the PBGC publishes the interest rates to be used under those regulations for plans terminating or undergoing mass withdrawal during the next month.

The interest rates are intended to reflect current conditions in the investment and annuity markets. To determine these interest rates, the PBGC gathers pricing data from insurance companies that are providing annuity contracts to terminating pension plans through a quarterly "Survey of Nonparticipating Single Premium Group Annuity Rates." The survey is distributed by the American Council of Life Insurers and provides the PBGC with "blind" data (*i.e.*, is conducted in such a way that the PBGC is unable to match responses with the companies that submitted them).

The survey is directed at insurance companies that have volunteered to participate, most or all of which are members of the American Council of Life Insurers. The survey is conducted quarterly and will be sent to approximately 22 insurance companies. Based on experience under the current approval, the PBGC estimates that 11 insurance companies will complete and return the survey. The PBGC further estimates that the average annual burden of this collection of information is 41 hours and \$88.

The collection of information under the regulation has been approved by OMB under control number 1212-0030 through January 31, 2003. The PBGC intends to request that OMB extend its approval for another three years. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

The PBGC is soliciting public comments to—

- Evaluate whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;