

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Becky Baker, Secretary of the Board, Telephone: 703-518-6304.

Becky Baker,

Secretary of the Board.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: 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:* 10 CFR Part 55, "Operators' Licenses".

2. *Current OMB approval number:* 3150-0018.

3. *How often the collection is required:* As necessary for NRC to meet its responsibilities to determine the eligibility of applicants for operators' licenses, prepare or review initial operator licensing and requalification examinations, and review applications for and performance of simulation facilities.

4. *Who is required or asked to report:* Holders of and applicants for facility (i.e., nuclear power, research, and test reactor) operating licenses and individual operators' licenses.

5. *The number of annual respondents:* 106.

6. *The number of hours needed annually to complete the requirement or request:* 65,586 (approximately 44,736 hours of reporting burden and approximately 20,850 hours of recordkeeping burden).

7. *Abstract:* 10 CFR Part 55, "Operators' Licenses," of the NRC's regulations, specifies information and data to be provided by applicants and facility licenses so that the NRC may make determinations concerning the licensing and requalification of operators for nuclear reactors, as necessary to promote public health and safety. The reporting and recordkeeping

requirements contained in 10 CFR Part 55 are mandatory for the licensees and applicants affected.

Submit, by February 14, 2003, 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/public-involve/doc-comment/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 E6, Washington, DC 20555-0001, by telephone at 301-415-7233, or by Internet electronic mail at INFOCOLLECTS@NRC.GOV.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 9th day of December 2002.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Brenda Jo. Shelton,

NRC Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 02-31610 Filed 12-13-02; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-261]

Carolina Power & Light Company; H. B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant, Unit No. 2; Exemption

1.0 Background

Carolina Power & Light Company (CP&L) is the holder of Facility Operating License No. DPR-23, which authorizes operation of the H. B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant, Unit No. 2 (HBRSEP2). 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 Darlington County, South Carolina.

2.0 Request/Action

Pursuant to 10 CFR 55.59(c), a facility's licensed operator requalification program must be conducted for a continuous period not to exceed 2 years (24 months) and upon conclusion must be promptly followed, pursuant to a continuous schedule, by successive requalification programs. Each 2-year requalification program must include a comprehensive biennial written examination and annual operating tests.

By letter dated October 11, 2002, CP&L requested a one-time exemption from the schedular requirements of 10 CFR 55.59(c). Specifically, for HBRSEP2, CP&L has requested a one-time extension from December 31, 2002, to March 31, 2003, for completing the licensed operator requalification annual operating test and comprehensive biennial written examination. This requested exemption would allow an extension of 3 months beyond the schedule for completion of the operating test and written examination as required by 10 CFR 55.59(c). CP&L's letter constitutes a request for exemption under 10 CFR 55.11, which states: "The Commission may, upon application by an interested person, or upon its own initiative, grant such exemptions from the requirements of the regulations in this part as it determines are authorized by law and will not endanger life or property and are otherwise in the public interest." The exemption is being requested for HBRSEP2 due to an unusually high workload associated with a plant refueling outage (RFO21) and a power uprate project, which occurred just prior to the originally scheduled examinations. Due to the refueling outage and power uprate activities, which included modifying the plant-specific simulator and extensive training of personnel on new and modified procedures, development and administration of the written examination and operating test within the required schedule is viewed as a schedule and workload hardship by the licensee.

3.0 Discussion

Pursuant to 10 CFR 55.11, the Commission may, upon application by an interested person, or upon its own initiative, grant such exemptions from the requirements of the regulations in this part as it determines are authorized by law and will not endanger life or