

Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS) is announcing the availability for public comment of a set of draft safety analyses related to the potential inadvertent disposal of two spent fuel rods at a low-level radioactive waste facility. In November 2000, the licensee for Millstone Unit 1 (Dominion Nuclear Connecticut, Inc.) informed the NRC that the location of two spent fuel rods could not be determined and the following investigation by the licensee concluded that the two spent fuel rods may have been inadvertently sent for disposal as Class C low-level radioactive waste. One analysis was prepared for each of the two possible low-level radioactive waste facilities: the Hanford, Washington site and the Barnwell, South Carolina site. The NRC has determined, from these analyses, that the potential presence of the two fuel rods, at either site, would not constitute a present or future risk to public health and safety or the environment. The NRC is seeking public comment in order to receive feedback from the widest range of interested parties and to ensure that all information relevant to developing the safety analyses is available to the NRC staff. The NRC will review public comments received on the draft documents. In response to those comments, suggested changes will be incorporated, where appropriate, and a final document will be issued.

DATES: Comments on this draft document should be submitted by March 7, 2003. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

ADDRESSES: The draft safety analyses, "Long-Term Hazard of Millstone Unit 1's Missing Spent Fuel Rods Potentially Disposed at the Barnwell Commercial Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Facility" and "Long-Term Hazard of Millstone Unit 1's Missing Spent Fuel Rods Potentially Disposed at the Hanford Commercial Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Facility," are available for inspection and copying for a fee at the Commission's Public Document Room, U.S. NRC's Headquarters Building, 11555 Rockville Pike (First Floor), Rockville, Maryland. They are also available electronically from the ADAMS Electronic Reading Room on the NRC Web site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (ADAMS Access Numbers: Barnwell's analysis—ML023610413; Hanford's analysis—ML023610424)

Members of the public are invited and encouraged to submit written comments to: Christopher McKenney, System Performance Analyst (HP), Environmental and Performance

Assessment Branch, Division of Waste Management, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, Mail Stop T-7J8, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001. Hand-deliver comments to: 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD, between 7:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m., Federal workdays. Comments may also be sent electronically to cam1@nrc.gov. Copies of comments received may be examined at the ADAMS Electronic Reading Room on the NRC web site, and in the NRC Public Document Room, 11555 Rockville Pike, Room O-1F21, Rockville, MD 20852. The NRC Public Document Room is open from 7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Christopher McKenney, Mail Stop T-7J8, Environmental and Performance Assessment Branch, Division of Waste Management, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001. Telephone: (301) 415-6663; Internet: cam1@nrc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In November 2000, the licensee for Millstone Unit 1 (Dominion Nuclear Connecticut, Inc.) informed the NRC that the location of two spent fuel rods could not be determined. An investigative team was formed by the licensee and completed its investigation in October, 2001. A follow-up NRC inspection reviewed the findings of the investigation and agrees with the results. The result of the investigation was that there is a chance that the rods may have been unintentionally disposed at the Hanford, Washington, or Barnwell, South Carolina commercial low-level radioactive waste disposal facilities. The most likely explanation was that the rods were inadvertently shipped to Barnwell in 1988, as part of a shipment of Class C low-level radioactive waste. These safety analyses do not address the jurisdictional issues raised by the potential disposal of spent fuel at a shallow low-level waste disposal facility.

There are both short- and long-term considerations for reviewing the health and safety impacts of the rods potentially being at a low-level radioactive waste disposal facility. These include the type and amount of radioactivity present, the current location and disposition of the suspected shipments, potential future groundwater release, and risk to potential inadvertent intruders. Dominion Nuclear Connecticut, Inc., provided an assessment of the risks from the missing fuel on October 5, 2001. A second assessment was

provided by Dominion Nuclear Connecticut, Inc., on May 15, 2002, that responded to a NRC request for additional information. After investigating the short- and long-term considerations, for the reasons given in the safety analyses, NRC has determined that the presence of the two fuel rods at either low-level radioactive waste disposal facility does not constitute a present or future risk to the public health and safety or the environment.

Commentors are encouraged to submit their written comments on these two safety analyses to the addresses listed above. To ensure efficient and complete comment resolution, commentors are requested to reference the section, page, and line numbers of the document to which the comment applies, if possible.

Dated at Rockville, MD, this 24th day of December, 2002.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Lawrence Kokajko,
Branch Chief, Environmental and Performance Assessment Branch, Division of Waste Management, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.

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OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request for an Expiring Information Collection: SF-15

AGENCY: Office of Personnel Management.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Public Law 104-13, May 22, 1995), this notice announces that the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request for the continued use of Standard Form 15 (SF-15). SF 15, Application for 10-Point Veteran Preference, is used by agencies, OPM examining offices and agency appointing officials to adjudicate individuals' claims for veterans' preference in accordance with the Veterans' Preference Act of 1944. According to the General Services Administration, 45,000 SF-15s were completed last year. Each form requires approximately 10 minutes to complete. The annual estimated burden is 7,497 hours.

We are asking OMB to approve the continuation of the current SF-15. In the 60 day notice published July 19, 2002, we announced our proposal to revise the SF-15 and we invited

comments. We plan to submit the revision later and will address the comments at that time.

For copies of this proposal, contact Mary Beth Smith-Toomey at *mbtoomey@opm.gov* or fax to (202) 418-3251. Please be sure to include a mailing address with your request.

DATES: Comments on this proposal should be received within 30 calendar days from the date of this publication.

ADDRESSES: Send or deliver written comments to:

Ellen Tunstall, Assistant Director for Employment Policy, U.S. Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street, NW., Room 6500, Washington, DC 20415.

and

Stuart Shapiro, OPM Desk Officer, Office of Information & Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, New Executive Office Building, NW., Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503.

U.S. Office of Personnel Management.

Kay Coles James,

Director.

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OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Excepted Service

AGENCY: Office of Personnel Management.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This gives notice of OPM decisions, granting authority to make appointments under Schedule C in the excepted service as required by 5 CFR 6.1 and 213.103.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Pam Shivery, Director, Washington Service Center, Employment Service (202) 606-1015.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Appearing in the listing below are the individual authorities established under Schedule C between between November 1, 2002 and November 30, 2002. Future notices will be published on the fourth Tuesday of each month, or as soon as possible thereafter. A consolidated listing of all authorities as of June 30 is published each year.

Schedule C

Broadcasting Board of Governors

Special Assistant to the Chairman. Effective November 21, 2002.

Special Assistant to the Chairman. Effective November 22, 2002.

Commodity Futures Trading Commission

Administrative Assistant to a Commissioner. Effective November 12, 2002.

Administrative Assistant to the Commissioner. Effective November 21, 2002.

Consumer Product Safety Commission

Executive Assistant to the Chairman. Effective November 14, 2002.

General Counsel to the Chairman. Effective November 21, 2002.

Department of Agriculture

Confidential Assistant to the Deputy Administrator, Office of Community Development. Effective November 6, 2002.

Director of Public Affairs to the Administrator. Effective November 14, 2002.

Special Assistant to the Executive Assistant for Homeland Security. Effective November 15, 2002.

Confidential Assistant to the Administrator, Risk Management Agency. Effective November 20, 2002.

Department of Commerce

Special Assistant to the Executive Assistant, International Trade Administration. Effective November 12, 2002.

Confidential Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for Economic Development. Effective November 27, 2002.

Department of Defense

Defense Fellow to the Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for White House Liaison. Effective November 1, 2002.

Defense Fellow to the Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for White House Liaison. Effective November 7, 2002.

Chief of Staff to the Inspector General. Effective November 7, 2002.

Staff Assistant to the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Forces Policy). Effective November 13, 2002.

Department of Education

Confidential Assistant to the Special Assistant. Effective November 7, 2002.

Special Assistant to the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Regional Services. Effective November 19, 2002.

Special Assistant to the Director, White House Initiative on Hispanic Education. Effective November 19, 2002.

Deputy Secretary's Regional Representative to the Assistant Secretary for Intergovernmental and Interagency Affairs. Effective November 25, 2002.

Department of Energy

Special Assistant to the Deputy Assistant Secretary for National Security. Effective November 5, 2002.

Daily Scheduler to the Director, Office of Scheduling and Advance. Effective November 26, 2002.

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Advance Coordinator to the Director of Executive Scheduling. Effective November 15, 2002.

Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for Congressional and intergovernmental Relations. Effective November 18, 2002.

Congressional Relations Officer to the Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations. Effective November 18, 2002.

Staff Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations. Effective November 18, 2002.

Assistant for Congressional Relations to the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations. Effective November 26, 2002.

Department of Justice

Special Assistant to the Director, Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs. Effective November 7, 2002.

Public Affairs Specialist to the United States Attorney, San Antonio, TX. Effective November 20, 2002.

Department of Labor

Special Assistant to the Director of Scheduling and Advance. Effective November 21, 2002.

Attorney-Advisor to the Solicitor of Labor. Effective November 21, 2002.

Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management. Effective November 25, 2002.

Department of State

Program Support Assistant to the Foreign Affairs Officer (Visits). Effective November 15, 2002.

Staff Assistant to the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Equal Employment. Effective November 26, 2002.

Department of Veterans Affairs

Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Legislative Affairs. Effective November 14, 2002.

Environmental Protection Agency

Deputy Associate Administrator to the Associate Administrator, Office of Congressional Affairs. Effective November 19, 2002.