

be determined by voluntary agreement among the affected parties, or if necessary, through compulsory arbitration conducted pursuant to Chapter 8 of the Copyright Act. Rates and terms are set for a two-year period through this process, unless a different period is otherwise agreed upon by the parties as part of a negotiated agreement.

Parties may submit such an agreement to the Copyright Office and request that the Office publish the proposed rates and terms in the **Federal Register** for comment from the public. If no party with a substantial interest and an intent to participate in an arbitration proceeding files a comment opposing the negotiated rates and terms, the Librarian may adopt the proposed terms and rates without convening a copyright arbitration royalty panel. 37 CFR 251.63(b). On the other hand, if the affected parties are unable to reach an industry-wide agreement, or only certain parties negotiate private license agreements, then rates and terms for the statutory licenses are established through the arbitration process.

The arbitration process begins when an interested party files a petition with the Librarian of Congress during the 60-day period specified by the statute and requests that the rates be set through the CARP process. The petition must be filed by a party with a significant interest in the outcome of the proceeding and it must identify "the extent to which the petitioner's interest is shared by other owners or users." 17 CFR 251.62(a). For both the section 112 and section 114 licenses, the period for filing a petition to set rates and terms for the 2005 and 2006 license period shall begin on July 1, 2004. 17 U.S.C. 112(e)(6) and 114(f)(2)(C)(ii)(II).

Initiation of Voluntary Negotiations

Unless the schedule for setting terms and rates has been readjusted by the parties in a previous rate adjustment proceeding, §§ 112(e)(6) and 114(f)(2)(C)(i)(II) of the Copyright Act require the publication of a notice in January 2000, and at 2-year intervals thereafter, initiating the voluntary negotiation periods for determining reasonable rates and terms for the statutory licenses permitting the public performance of a sound recording by means of certain digital transmissions and the making of an ephemeral recording in accordance with § 112(e). See 65 FR 2194 (January 13, 2000) and 67 FR 4472 (January 30, 2002). The publication of today's notice fulfills this requirement.

The negotiation period shall begin on January 6, 2004 and end on June 30,

2004. Parties who negotiate a voluntary license agreement during this period are encouraged to submit two copies of the agreement to the Copyright Office at the appropriate address listed above within 30 days of its execution.

Petitions

In the absence of a license agreement negotiated under 17 U.S.C. 112(e)(4) or 114(f)(2)(A), those copyright owners of sound recordings and entities availing themselves of the statutory licenses are subject to arbitration upon the filing of a petition by a party with a significant interest in establishing reasonable terms and rates for the statutory licenses. Petitions must be filed in accordance with 17 U.S.C. 112(e)(7), 114(f)(2)(C)(ii)(II), and 803(a)(1) and may be filed any time during the sixty-day period beginning on July 1, 2004. See also, 37 CFR 251.61. Parties should submit petitions to the Copyright Office at the appropriate address given in this notice. The petitioner must deliver an original and five copies to the Office.

Dated: December 30, 2003.

Marilyn J. Kretsinger,

Associate General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 04-183 Filed 1-5-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 1410-33-P

MEDICARE PAYMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION

Commission Meeting

AGENCY: Medicare Payment Advisory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Commission will hold its next public meeting on Wednesday, January 14, 2004, and Thursday, January 15, 2004, at the Ronald Reagan Building, International Trade Center, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC. The meeting is tentatively scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. on January 14, and at 9 a.m. on January 15.

Topics for discussion include: recommendations on payment adequacy analyses for hospitals, physicians, outpatient dialysis, ambulatory surgical centers, home health, and skilled nursing facilities; and Medicare+Choice. Presentations will also be made on long-term care hospitals and dual eligible beneficiaries.

Agencies will be e-mailed approximately one week prior to the meeting. The final agenda will be available on the Commission's Web site (<http://www.MedPAC.gov>).

ADDRESSES: MedPAC's address is: 601 New Jersey Avenue, NW., Suite 9000,

Washington, DC 20001. The telephone number is (202) 220-3700.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Diane Ellison, Office Manager, (202) 220-3700.

Mark E. Miller,

Executive Director.

[FR Doc. 04-119 Filed 1-5-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6820-BW-M

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-293]

Entergy Nuclear Generation Company, Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.; Notice of Withdrawal of Application for Amendment to Facility Operating License

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or the Commission) has granted the request of Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (the licensee) to withdraw its August 19, 2002, application for proposed amendment to Facility Operating License No. DPR-35 for the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station, located in Plymouth County, Massachusetts. The licensee's application was supplemented by letters dated February 14, March 27, and April 14, 2003.

The proposed amendment would have modified the facility Technical Specifications (TSs) pertaining to post-accident monitoring instrumentation requirements to make the TSs more consistent with the Standard Technical Specifications for boiling water reactors.

The Commission had previously issued a Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment published in the **Federal Register** on December 24, 2002 (67 FR 78519). However, by letter dated November 6, 2003, the licensee withdrew the amendment request.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated August 19, 2002, as supplemented by letters dated February 14, March 27, and April 14, 2003, and the licensee's letter dated November 6, 2003, which withdrew the application for license amendment. Documents may be examined, and/or copied for a fee, at the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR), located at One White Flint North, Public File Area O1 F21, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland. Publicly available records will be accessible electronically from the Agencywide Documents Access and Management Systems (ADAMS) Public Electronic Reading Room on the internet at the NRC Web site, <http://>

www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams/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 email to pdr@nrc.gov.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 29th day of December, 2003.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Travis Tate,

Project Manager, Section 2, Project Directorate 1, Division of Licensing Project Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 04-186 Filed 1-5-04; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

DATES: Weeks of January 5, 12, 19, 26, February 2, 9, 2004.

PLACE: Commissioners' Conference Room, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

STATUS: Public and closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

Week of January 5, 2004

There are no meetings scheduled for the Week of January 5, 2004.

Week of January 12, 2004—Tentative

Wednesday, January 14, 2004

9:30 a.m. Briefing on Status of Office of Chief Information Officer Programs, Performance, and Plans (Public Meeting) (Contact: Jacqueline Silber, 301-415-7330).

This meeting will be webcast live at the Web address—<http://www.nrc.gov>.

Week of January 19, 2004—Tentative

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

1:30 p.m. Discussion of Security Issues (Closed—Ex. 1).

Week of January 26, 2004—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the Week of January 26, 2004.

Week of February 2, 2004—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the Week of February 2, 2004.

Week of February 9, 2004—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the Week of February 9, 2004.

The schedule for Commission meetings is subject to change on short notice. To verify the status of meetings call (recording)—(301) 415-1292.

Contact person for more information: Timothy J. Frye, (301) 415-1651.

The NRC Commission Meeting Schedule can be found on the Internet at: <http://www.nrc.gov/what-we-do/policy-making/schedule.html>.

This notice is distributed by mail to several hundred subscribers; if you no longer wish to receive it, or would like to be added to the distribution, please contact the Office of the Secretary, Washington, DC 20555, (301) 415-1969. In addition, distribution of this meeting notice over the Internet system is available. If you are interested in receiving this Commission meeting schedule electronically, please send an electronic message to dkw@nrc.gov.

Dated: December 31, 2003.

R. Michelle Schroll,

Information Management Specialist, Office of the Secretary.

[FR Doc. 04-311 Filed 1-2-04; 12:08 pm]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-M

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Biweekly Notice; Applications and Amendments to Facility Operating Licenses Involving No Significant Hazards Considerations

I. Background

Pursuant to Public Law 97-415, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission or NRC staff) is publishing this regular biweekly notice. Public Law 97-415 revised section 189 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), to require the Commission to publish notice of any amendments issued, or proposed to be issued, under a new provision of section 189 of the Act. This provision grants the Commission the authority to issue and make immediately effective any amendment to an operating license upon a determination by the Commission that such amendment involves no significant hazards consideration, notwithstanding the pendency before the Commission of a request for a hearing from any person.

This biweekly notice includes all notices of amendments issued, or proposed to be issued from December 12, 2003, through December 23, 2003. The last biweekly notice was published on December 23, 2003 (68 FR 74262).

Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendments to Facility Operating Licenses, Proposed No Significant Hazards Consideration Determination, and Opportunity for a Hearing

The Commission has made a proposed determination that the

following amendment requests involve no significant hazards consideration. Under the Commission's regulations in 10 CFR 50.92, this means that operation of the facility in accordance with the proposed amendment would not (1) involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated; or (2) create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated; or (3) involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety. The basis for this proposed determination for each amendment request is shown below.

The Commission is seeking public comments on this proposed determination. Any comments received within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice will be considered in making any final determination.

Normally, the Commission will not issue the amendment until the expiration of the 30-day notice period. However, should circumstances change during the notice period such that failure to act in a timely way would result, for example, in derating or shutdown of the facility, the Commission may issue the license amendment before the expiration of the 30-day notice period, provided that its final determination is that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration. The final determination will consider all public and State comments received before action is taken. Should the Commission take this action, it will publish in the **Federal Register** a notice of issuance and provide for opportunity for a hearing after issuance. The Commission expects that the need to take this action will occur very infrequently.

Written comments may be submitted by mail to the Chief, Rules and Directives Branch, Division of Administrative Services, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, and should cite the publication date and page number of this **Federal Register** notice. Written comments may also be delivered to Room 6D22, Two White Flint North, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Federal workdays. Copies of written comments received may be examined at the Commission's Public Document Room (PDR), located at One White Flint North, Public File Area 01F21, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland. The filing of requests for a hearing and petitions for leave to intervene is discussed below.

By February 5, 2004, the licensee may file a request for a hearing with respect