

limits the service water temperature to 85 degrees F because the results of previous analyses of a scenario (reactor vessel isolation with high-pressure coolant injection being unavailable) showed that the design temperature for the piping attached to the wetwell would be exceeded. NMC's revised analyses shows the design temperature is not exceeded.

The proposed action is in accordance with NMC's application of December 6, 2002, as supplemented September 24, 2003.

The Need for the Proposed Action

NMC needs this license amendment because it has determined, in accordance with 10 CFR 50.59(c)(2)(viii), that the updated containment analyses involve different evaluation methods from those currently described in Monticello's USAR and previously approved by the NRC.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

The NRC staff reviewed NMC's amendment request and will issue a safety evaluation documenting its review. The NRC staff has reviewed NMC's calculation of the mass and energy releases that are used to determine containment pressure response, including the methods and key underlying input assumptions (*e.g.*, decay heat generation).

NMC used conservative assumptions in its reanalyses which underestimate the containment pressure and overestimate the suppression pool water temperature. Some overpressure is necessary to ensure sufficient available NPSH. The conservative assumptions used in NMC's calculations and the cautions in Monticello's emergency operating procedures are intended to ensure that this pressure will be available.

The NRC has completed its evaluation of the proposed action and concludes, as set forth below, that there are no significant environmental impacts associated with the proposed changes to the Monticello design basis and USAR. The details of the NRC staff's review of the amendment request will be provided in the related safety evaluation when it is issued by the NRC.

The proposed action will not significantly increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types or amounts of effluents that may be released off site, and there is no significant increase in occupational or public radiation exposure. Therefore, there are no significant radiological environmental

impacts associated with the proposed action.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed action does not have a potential to affect any historic sites. It does not affect nonradiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Accordingly, the NRC concludes that there are no significant environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Environmental Impacts of the Alternatives to the Proposed Action

As an alternative to the proposed action, the staff considered denial of the proposed action (*i.e.*, the "no-action" alternative). Denial of the application would result in no change in current environmental impacts. The environmental impacts of the proposed action and the alternative action are similar.

Alternative Use of Resources

The action does not involve the use of any different resource than those previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement for Monticello dated November 1972.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

On January 6, 2004, the staff consulted with the Minnesota State official, Nancy Campbell of the Department of Commerce, regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comments.

Finding of No Significant Impact

On the basis of the environmental assessment, the NRC concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, the NRC has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed action.

For further details with respect to the proposed action, see NMC's letter of December 6, 2002, as supplemented September 24, 2003. 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 System (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 e-mail to pdr@nrc.gov.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 6th day of January 2004.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

L. Raghavan,

Chief, Section 1, Project Directorate III, Division of Licensing Project Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 04-789 Filed 1-13-04; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards: Joint Meeting of the ACRS Subcommittees on Materials and Metallurgy and on Thermal-Hydraulic Phenomena; Notice of Meeting

The ACRS Subcommittees on Materials and Metallurgy and on Thermal-Hydraulic Phenomena will hold a joint meeting on February 3-4, 2004, Room T-2B3, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

Portions of the meeting may be closed to public attendance to discuss Argonne National Laboratory (ANL) proprietary information per 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(4).

The agenda for the subject meeting shall be as follows:

Tuesday and Wednesday, February 3-4, 2004—8:30 a.m. Until the Conclusion of Business

The Subcommittees will review the resolution of certain items identified by the ACRS in NUREG-1740, "Voltage-Based Alternative Repair Criteria," related to the Differing Professional Opinion on steam generator tube integrity, as well as the status of resolution of remaining items. The purpose of this meeting is to gather information, analyze relevant issues and facts, and formulate proposed positions and actions, as appropriate, for deliberation by the full Committee.

Members of the public desiring to provide oral statements and/or written comments should notify the Designated Federal Official, Mr. Bhagwat P. Jain (telephone: 301-415-7270), five days prior to the meeting, if possible, so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Electronic recordings will be permitted.

Further information regarding this meeting can be obtained by contacting the Designated Federal Official between 7:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. (ET). Persons planning to attend this meeting are

urged to contact the above named individual at least two working days prior to the meeting to be advised of any potential changes to the agenda.

Dated: January 8, 2004.

Sher Bahadur,

*Associate Director for Technical Support,
ACRS/ACNW.*

[FR Doc. 04-791 Filed 1-13-04; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Draft Regulatory Guide; Issuance, Availability

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has issued for public comment a proposed revision of a guide in its Regulatory Guide Series. Regulatory Guides are developed to describe and make available to the public such information as methods acceptable to the NRC staff for implementing specific parts of the NRC's regulations, techniques used by the staff in evaluating specific problems or postulated accidents, and data needed by the staff in its review of applications for permits and licenses.

The draft guide is temporarily identified by its task number, DG-1129, which should be mentioned in all correspondence concerning this draft guide. The proposed Revision 3 of Regulatory Guide 1.75, Draft Regulatory Guide DG-1129, "Criteria for Independence of Electrical Safety Systems," is being developed to describe a method that is acceptable to the NRC staff for complying with the NRC's regulations with respect to the physical independence requirements of the circuits and electric equipment that compose or are associated with safety systems. The guide proposes to endorse the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers standard IEEE Std. 384-1992, "Standard Criteria for Independence of Class 1E Equipment and Circuits."

This draft guide has not received complete staff approval and does not represent an official NRC staff position.

Comments may be accompanied by relevant information or supporting data. Written comments may be submitted by mail to the Rules and Directives Branch, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555; or they may be hand-delivered to the Rules and Directives Branch, Office of Administration, at 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD. Copies of comments received may be examined at the NRC Public Document Room, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville,

MD. Comments will be most helpful if received by March 12, 2004.

You may also provide comments via the NRC's interactive rulemaking Web site through the NRC Home page (<http://www.nrc.gov>). This site provides the ability to upload comments as files (any format) if your Web browser supports that function. For information about the interactive rulemaking web site, contact Ms. Carol Gallagher, (301) 415-5905; e-mail CAG@NRC.GOV. For technical information about Draft Regulatory Guide DG-1079, contact Mr. S.K. Aggarwal at (301) 415-6005, (e-mail SKA@NRC.GOV).

Although a deadline is given for comments on these draft guides, comments and suggestions in connection with items for inclusion in guides currently being developed or improvements in all published guides are encouraged at any time.

Regulatory guides are available for inspection at the NRC's Public Document Room, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD; the PDR's mailing address is USNRC PDR, Washington, DC 20555; telephone (301) 415-4737 or (800) 397-42056; fax (301) 415-3548; e-mail PDR@NRC.GOV. Requests for single copies of draft or final regulatory guides (which may be reproduced) or for placement on an automatic distribution list for single copies of future draft guides in specific divisions should be made in writing to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, Attention: Reproduction and Distribution Services Section, or by fax to (301) 415-2289; e-mail DISTRIBUTION@NRC.GOV. Telephone requests cannot be accommodated. Regulatory guides are not copyrighted, and NRC approval is not required to reproduce them. (5 U.S.C. 552(a))

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 12th day of December 2003.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Michael Mayfield,

*Director, Division of Engineering Technology,
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research.*

[FR Doc. 04-788 Filed 1-13-04; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Filings and Information Services, Washington, DC 20549

Extension: Rule 29, SEC File No. 270-169, OMB Control No. 3235-0149.

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") is soliciting comments on the collection of information summarized below. The Commission plans to submit the existing collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget for extension and approval.

Rule 29 under the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935, as amended, ("Act"), 15 U.S.C. 79, *et seq.*, requires that "[a] copy of each annual report submitted by any registered holding company or any of its subsidiaries to a state commission covering operations not reported to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission shall be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission no later than ten days after its submission."

The regulation requires that the same reports prepared and filed under state law be filed with the Commission. The information collected under Rule 29 permits the Commission to remain current on developments that are reported to state commissions, but that may not otherwise be reported to the Commission. This information is beneficial to the liaison the Commission maintains with state governments and is also useful in the preparation of annual reports to the U.S. Congress required under section 23 of the Act, 15 U.S.C. 79(w).

The Commission receives about 62 annual reports per year under this regulation. We estimate, on the basis of informal discussions with respondents, that the rule imposes a burden of about .25 hours each year for each respondent, which makes only one submission. Therefore, a total annual burden of 15.50 hours is imposed. The cost of this reporting burden is estimated to be \$100 per hour or \$1,550 total for all respondents. The responses are public documents so confidentiality is not an issue. All registered companies and their subsidiaries are required to make the filings.

The estimate of average burden hours is made solely for the purpose of the