

enriched or plutonium fuel facilities must be justified but will generally be found acceptable, with the caveats discussed above³.

For facility processes involving unusual materials or new process conditions, the validation should be reviewed in detail to ensure that there are no anomalies associated with unique system characteristics.

In any case, the MoS should not be reduced below a minimum of 0.02.

Reducing the MoS below 0.05 for low-enriched processes or 0.1 for high-enriched or plutonium processes requires substantial additional justification, which may include:

1. An unusually high degree of similarity between the chosen benchmarks and anticipated normal and credible abnormal conditions being validated.

2. Demonstration that the system k_{eff} is highly insensitive to changes in underlying system parameters, such that the worst credible modeling or cross section errors would have a negligible effect on the bias.

3. Demonstration that the system being modeled is known to be subcritical with a high degree of confidence. This requires that there be other strong evidence in addition to the calculations that the system is subcritical (such as comparison with highly similar systems in published references such as handbooks or standards).

4. Demonstration that the validation methodology is exceptionally rigorous, so that any potential sources of error have been accounted for in calculating the USL.

5. Demonstration that there is a dependable and consistent amount of conservatism in k_{eff} due to the conservatism in modeling practices.

In addition, justification of the MoS for abnormal conditions may include:

6. Demonstration that the increased likelihood of a process calculated as subcritical being critical is offset by the unlikelihood of achieving the abnormal condition.

This list is not all-inclusive; other technical justification demonstrating that there is a high degree of confidence in the calculation of k_{eff} may be used.

³NUREG-1718, Section 6.4.3.3.4, states that the applicant should submit justification for the MoS, but then states that an MoS of 0.05 is "generally considered to be acceptable without additional justification when both the bias and its uncertainty are determined to be negligible." These statements are inconsistent. The statement about 0.05 being generally acceptable without additional justification is in error and should be removed from the next revision to the SRP.

Recommendation

The guidance in this ISG should supplement the current guidance in the NCS chapters of the fuel facility SRPs (NUREG-1520 and -1718). In addition, NUREG-1718, Section 6.4.3.3.4, should be revised to remove the following sentence: "A minimum subcritical margin of 0.05 is generally considered to be acceptable without additional justification when both the bias and its uncertainty are determined to be negligible."

References

- NUREG-1520, "Standard Review Plan for the Review of a License Application for a Fuel Cycle Facility"
- NUREG-1718, "Standard Review Plan for the Review of an Application for a Mixed Oxide (MOX) Fuel Fabrication Facility"
- NUREG/CR-6698, "Guide for Validation of Nuclear Criticality Safety Calculational Methodology"
- NUREG/CR-6361, "Criticality Benchmark Guide for Light-Water-Reactor Fuel in Transportation and Storage Packages"

Approved: _____

Date: _____

Director, FCSS

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OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request for Review of a Revised Information Collection: Form DPRS-2809

AGENCY: Office of Personnel Management.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 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 review of a revised information collection. DPRS-2809, Request to Change Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Enrollment or to Receive Plan Brochures, is used by former spouses, Temporary Continuation of Coverage enrollees, and direct pay annuitants to change health benefits enrollment or request plan brochures for plans they wish to consider for enrollment during open season.

Approximately 27,000 DPRS-2809 forms are completed annually. We estimate it takes approximately 45 minutes to complete the form. The annual burden is 20,250 hours.

For copies of this proposal, contact Mary Beth Smith-Toomey on (202) 606-8358, FAX (202) 418-3251 or via E-mail to mbtoomey@opm.gov. Please 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 comments to—

Ellen Korcchek, CEBS, Chief, Program Planning & Evaluation Group, Insurances Services Program, Center for Retirement and Insurance Services, U.S. Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street, NW., Room 3425, Washington, DC 20415-3650

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

For Information Regarding Administrative Coordination—Contact:
Cyrus S. Benson, Team Leader, Publications Team, Support Group, (202) 606-0623.

Office of Personnel Management.

Kay Coles James,

Director.

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 50747]

Securities Exchange Act of 1934; Order Delaying Pilot Period for Suspension of the Operation of Short Sale Price Provisions

November 29, 2004.

On July 28, 2004, we issued an order ("Pilot Order") establishing a one year Pilot ("Pilot") suspending the provisions of Rule 10a-1(a) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act")¹ and any short sale price test of any exchange or national securities association for short sales² of certain securities.³ The Pilot Order provided

¹ 17 CFR 240.10a-1.

² "Short sale" is defined in Rule 200 of Regulation SHO, 17 CFR 242.200.

³ Securities Exchange Act Release No. 50104 (July 28, 2004), 69 FR 48032 (August 6, 2004). Specifically, the Pilot Order suspended price tests for the following: (1) Short sales in the securities identified in Appendix A to the Pilot Order; (2) short sales in the securities included in the Russell 1000 index effected between 4:15 p.m. EST and the open of the effective transaction reporting plan of the Consolidated Tape Association ("consolidated