

In the absence of the statutory licenses, cable operators, satellite carriers, and copyright owners would have to negotiate the rights to carry programs according to marketplace rates, terms, and conditions. As stated earlier, cable operators and satellite carriers have successfully negotiated the right to carry local television broadcast signals of the major broadcast networks under the retransmission consent provisions found in Section 325 of the Communications Act. We seek comment on whether we should recommend to Congress that Sections 111 and 119 be repealed and superseded by Section 325 so that distant broadcast stations can freely negotiate signal carriage rights with cable operators and satellite carriers without reference to a statutory license.¹³ Could retransmission consent perform the same payment functions as Section 111 and Section 119? In other words, is there any way a retransmission consent agreement can be structured so that the monetary value of the underlying content is collected by broadcast stations and then paid to the copyright owners of the programs that are retransmitted? Is there any reason why retransmission consent would not work for the retransmission of distant television signals? Are there any contractual impediments, such as network-station affiliation arrangements, that would preclude the retransmission of distant television signals under a privately negotiated agreement? Are there any legal impediments, such as the FCC's network non-duplication rules, that would frustrate private agreements? Is it difficult for small cable operators to negotiate the rights necessary to carry the signals of distant television stations? Would the elimination of the statutory licenses cause harm to cable or satellite subscribers? If so, how?

III. CONCLUSION

We hereby seek comment from the public on the legal and factual matters identified herein associated with the retention, reform, or elimination of Sections 111, 119, and 122 of the

Communications Act, filed March 20, 2007. The Petition did not raise for comment whether Internet video programming distributors may still avail themselves of the statutory licenses under the Copyright Act.

¹³One cable operator appears to advocate the replacement of retransmission consent with a new statutory license covering the cable retransmission of local broadcast television signals. See Ted Hearn, *Willner Calls for Tax to Aid TV Stations*, Multichannel News, March 13, 2007 (Insight Communications CEO Michael Willner has proposed a "TV tax" to replace retransmission consent that would fund a "federal royalty pool" "similar to the one used to compensate sports leagues and Hollywood studios").

Copyright Act. If there are any additional issues not discussed above, we encourage interested parties to bring those matters to our attention.

Dated: April 11, 2007

Marybeth Peters,

Register of Copyrights.

[FR Doc. E7-7207 Filed 4-13-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 1410-30-S

NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

Meetings of Humanities Panel

AGENCY: The National Endowment for the Humanities.

ACTION: Notice of meetings.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, as amended), notice is hereby given that the following meetings of Humanities Panels will be held at the Old Post Office, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20506.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Heather C. Gottry, Acting Advisory Committee Management Officer, National Endowment for the Humanities, Washington, DC 20506; telephone (202) 606-8322. Hearing-impaired individuals are advised that information on this matter may be obtained by contacting the Endowment's TDD terminal on (202) 606-8282.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The proposed meetings are for the purpose of panel review, discussion, evaluation and recommendation on applications for financial assistance under the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965, as amended, including discussion of information given in confidence to the agency by the grant applicants. Because the proposed meetings will consider information that is likely to disclose trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential and/or information of a personal nature the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, pursuant to authority granted me by the Chairman's Delegation of Authority To Close Advisory Committee Meetings, dated July 19, 1993, I have determined that these meetings will be closed to the public pursuant to subsections (c) (4) and (6) of section 552b of Title 5, United States Code.

1. *Date:* May 1, 2007.
Time: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Room: 315.

Program: This meeting will review applications for Landmarks of American History and Culture, submitted to the Division of Education Programs, at the March 15, 2007 deadline.

2. *Date:* May 2, 2007.

Time: 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Room: 415.

Program: This meeting will review applications for Radio Projects: Development and Production Grants, submitted to the Division of Public Programs, at the March 20, 2007 deadline.

3. *Date:* May 2, 2007.

Time: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Room: 315.

Program: This meeting will review applications for Landmarks of American History and Culture, submitted to the Division of Education Programs at the March 15, 2007 deadline.

4. *Date:* May 24, 2007.

Time: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Room: 315.

Program: This meeting will review applications for Digital Humanities Start-Up Grants, submitted in response to the Endowment's Digital Humanities Initiative at the April 3, 2007 deadline.

5. *Date:* May 29, 2007.

Time: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Room: 315.

Program: This meeting will review applications for Digital Humanities Start-Up Grants, submitted in response to the Endowment's Digital Humanities Initiative at the April 3, 2007 deadline.

6. *Date:* April 31, 2007.

Time: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Room: 315.

Program: This meeting will review applications for Digital Humanities Start-Up Grants, submitted in response to the Endowment's Digital Humanities Initiative at the April 3, 2007 deadline.

Heather C. Gottry,

Acting Advisory Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. E7-7197 Filed 4-13-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7536-01-P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos.: 50-155; 72-043; License No. DPR-06]

In the Matter of: Consumers Energy Company (Big Rock Point Facility); Order Approving Transfer of License and Conforming Amendment

I.

Consumers Energy Company (Consumers) is the holder of Facility

Operating License No. DPR-06, which authorizes the possession and use of the Big Rock Point site (Big Rock), and an onsite Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI) under a general license, SFGL-16, granted pursuant to Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), § 72.210. Consumers is licensed by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC, the Commission) to operate the Big Rock ISFSI. The facility is located at the licensee's site in Charlevoix, Michigan. In 2006, Consumers completed decommissioning and decontamination of the majority of the land on the site. On April 3, 2006, Consumers informed the Commission of its intent to release approximately 475 acres of land from the operating license, in accordance with the Big Rock license termination plan. Consumers submitted its final status survey report on November 2006, and NRC approved the release of the land in a letter to the licensee dated January 8, 2007. The only asset remaining subject to the license is a parcel of land of approximately 30 acres within which the ISFSI itself resides, and an additional parcel of approximately 75 acres adjacent to the ISFSI.

II.

By letter dated October 31, 2006, Consumers, Entergy Nuclear Palisades, LLC (ENP), and Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (ENO) (collectively, "the applicants") submitted an application requesting approval of the direct transfer of Consumers' interest in Big Rock Facility Operating License DPR-06 and general ISFSI License No. SFGL-16 to ENP to possess and own, and ENO, to control and operate, the Big Rock ISFSI and certain additional lands.

Consumers, ENP, and ENO also requested approval of a conforming license amendment that would replace references to Consumers in the license with references to ENP and ENO to reflect the direct transfer of ownership, and revise paragraph 1.A in the license to be consistent with paragraph 2 regarding the disposition of the Facility Operating License. No physical changes to the facilities or operational changes were proposed in the application. After completion of the proposed transfer, ENP and ENO would be the owner and operator, respectively, of Big Rock and the ISFSI.

Approval of the transfer of the facility operating license and conforming license amendment is requested pursuant to 10 CFR 50.80 and 72.50. Notice of the request for approval and opportunity for a hearing were published in the **Federal Register** on

January 30, 2007 (72 FR 4302-4303). A petition for leave to intervene pursuant to 10 CFR 2.309 was received from Nuclear Information and Resource Service, Do Not Waste Michigan, and Mr. Victor McManemy. The petition is under consideration by the Commission.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.80, no license, or any right thereunder, shall be transferred, directly or indirectly, through transfer of control of the license, unless the Commission shall give its consent in writing. Pursuant to 10 CFR 72.50, no license or any part included in a license issued under this part for an ISFSI shall be transferred, assigned, or in any matter disposed of, either voluntarily or involuntarily, directly or indirectly, through transfer of control of the license to any person, unless the Commission gives its consent in writing. Upon review of the information in the application and other information before the Commission, and relying upon the representations and agreements contained in the application, the NRC staff has determined that ENP is qualified to hold the ownership interests in the facility previously held by Consumers, and ENO is qualified to hold the operating authority under the license, and that the transfers of ownership and operating interests in the facility to ENP and ENO, respectively, described in the application is otherwise consistent with applicable provisions of law, regulations, and orders issued by the Commission, subject to the condition set forth below. The NRC staff has further found that the application for the proposed license amendment complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I. The facility will operate in conformity with the applications, the provisions of the Act and the rules and regulations of the Commission; there is reasonable assurance that the activities authorized by the proposed license amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, or the environment, and that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations; the issuance of the proposed license amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public, or the environment; and the issuance of the proposed amendment will be in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.

The findings set forth above are supported by NRC's Safety Evaluation Report dated April 6, 2007.

III.

Accordingly, pursuant to Sections 161b, 161i, and 184 of the Act; 42 U.S.C. 2201(b), 2201(i), and 2234; 10 CFR 50.80 and 10 CFR 72.50, *It is hereby ordered* that the direct transfer of the license, as described herein, to ENP and ENO is approved, subject to the following condition:

Prior to completion of the transfer of the license, Entergy shall provide the Directors of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation and the Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs satisfactory documentary evidence that it has obtained the appropriate amount of insurance required of licensees under 10 CFR Part 140 of the Commission's regulations.

It is further ordered that, consistent with 10 CFR 2.1315(b), license amendment that makes changes, as indicated in Enclosure 2 to the cover letter forwarding this Order to conform the license to reflect the subject direct license transfer, is approved. The amendment shall be issued and made effective at the time the proposed direct license transfer is completed.

It is further ordered that ENP and ENO shall inform the Directors of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation and the Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs in writing of the date of closing of the transfer of the Consumers interest in Big Rock to ENP and ENO, at least 1 business day prior to closing. Should the transfer of the license not be completed within one year of this Order's date of issuance, this Order shall become null and void, provided; however, that upon written application and for good cause shown, such date may be extended by order.

This Order is effective upon issuance. For further details with respect to this Order, see the initial application dated October 31, 2006, and the Safety Evaluation Report dated April 6, 2007, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room (PDR), located at One White Flint North, Public File Area 01 F21, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland and 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, 301-415-4737, or by e-mail to *pdr@nrc.gov*.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 6th day of April, 2007.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Charles L. Miller,

Director, Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs.

[FR Doc. E7-7208 Filed 4-13-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-255; Renewed License No. DPR-20]

In the Matter of Consumers Energy Company Nuclear Management Company (Palisades Nuclear Plant); Order Approving Transfer of License and Conforming Amendment

I.

Consumers Energy Company (Consumers) and Nuclear Management Company, LLC (NMC) are holders of Renewed Facility Operating License No. DPR-20, which authorizes the possession, use, and operation of Palisades Nuclear Plant (Palisades). Consumers is authorized to possess and use, and NMC is authorized to possess, use, and operate Palisades. The facility is located at the licensee's site in Van Buren County, Michigan.

II.

By letter dated August 31, 2006, Consumers, NMC, Entergy Nuclear Palisades, LLC (ENP), and Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (ENO) (collectively, "the applicants") submitted an application to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or Commission) requesting approval of the direct transfer of Renewed Facility Operating License No. DPR-20 from Palisades to ENP. The application is in connection with the sale of Consumer's ownership interest (100 percent) in Palisades to ENP, and the related transfer of operating authority for the facility from NMC to ENO.

Supplemental information was provided by letters dated December 15, 2006, and March 1 and April 4, 2007 (hereinafter, the August 31 application and December 15, 2006, and March 1 and April 4, 2007, supplemental information will be referred to collectively as the "application"). The applicants also requested approval of a conforming license amendment that would replace references to Consumers and NMC in the license with references to ENP and ENO to reflect the transfer of ownership, and would revise

paragraph 1.B in the license to be consistent with paragraph 2 regarding the disposition of the Provisional Operating License. No physical changes to the facilities or operational changes were proposed in the application. After completion of the proposed transfer, ENP and ENO would be the owner and operator, respectfully, of the facility.

Approval of the transfer of the facility operating license and conforming license amendment is requested by the applicants pursuant to Sections 50.80 and 50.90 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR). Notice of the request for approval and opportunity for a hearing were published in the **Federal Register** on November 16, 2006 (71 FR 66805). No comments were received. A petition for leave to intervene pursuant to 10 CFR 2.309 was received on December 5, 2006, from the Van Buren County, Covert Township, Covert Public Schools, Van Buren County Intermediate School District, Van Buren County District Library, Lake Michigan College, and South Haven Hospitals. A second petition for leave to intervene pursuant to 10 CFR 2.309 was received on December 6, 2006, from Michigan Environmental Council and Public Interest Research Group. The petitions are under consideration by the Commission.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.80, no license, or any right thereunder, shall be transferred, directly or indirectly, through transfer of control of the license, unless the Commission shall give its consent in writing. Upon review of the information in the application and other information before the Commission, and relying upon the representations and agreements contained in the application, the NRC staff has determined that ENP is qualified to hold the ownership interests in the facility previously held by Consumers, and ENO is qualified to hold the operating authority under the license, and that the transfer of ownership interests and the operating interests in the facility to ENP and ENO, respectively, described in the application is otherwise consistent with applicable provisions of law, regulations, and orders issued by the Commission, subject to the conditions set forth below. The NRC staff has further found that the application for the proposed license amendment complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I; the facility will operate in conformity with the applications, the provisions of the Act,

and the rules and regulations of the Commission; there is reasonable assurance that the activities authorized by the proposed license amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public and that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations; the issuance of the proposed license amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and the issuance of the proposed amendment will be in accordance with 10 CFR part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.

The findings set forth above are supported by NRC safety evaluations dated April 6, 2007.

III.

Accordingly, pursuant to Sections 161b, 161i, and 184 of the Act, 42 U.S.C. Sections 2201(b), 2201(i), and 2234; and 10 CFR 50.80, *it is hereby ordered* that the transfer of the license, as described herein, to ENP and ENO is approved, subject to the following condition:

Prior to completion of the transfer of the license, Entergy shall provide the Director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation satisfactory documentary evidence that it has obtained the appropriate amount of insurance required of a licensee under 10 CFR part 140 of the Commission's regulations.

It is further ordered that, consistent with 10 CFR 2.1315(b), the license amendment that makes changes, as indicated in Enclosure 2 to the cover letter forwarding this Order, to conform the license to reflect the subject direct license transfer is approved. The amendment shall be issued and made effective at the time the proposed direct license transfer is completed.

It is further ordered that ENP and ENO shall inform the Director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation in writing of the date of closing of the transfer of the Consumers and NMC interests in Palisades, at least 1 business day prior to closing. Should the transfer of the license not be completed within one year of this Order's date of issue, this Order shall become null and void, provided; however, that upon written application and for good cause shown, such date may be extended by order.

This Order is effective upon issuance.

For further details with respect to this Order, see the initial application dated August 31, 2006, as supplemented by letters dated December 15, 2006, and March 1 and April 4, 2007, and the non-proprietary safety evaluation dated April 6, 2007, which are available for