

Regulatory Research, telephone (301) 415-6675, e-mail mxd@nrc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

NUREG-1855, "Guidance on the Treatment of Uncertainties Associated With PRAs in Risk-Informed Decision Making, Draft Report for Comment." December 2007

This NUREG provides guidance on how to treat uncertainties associated with probabilistic risk assessment (PRA) in risk-informed decision making. The objectives of this guidance include fostering an understanding of (1) the uncertainties associated with PRA, (2) the impact of the uncertainties on the results of the PRA, and (3) the uncertainties in the context of the decision making. The guidance in this document focuses on the use of PRA insights and results and ways to address the associated uncertainties. Consequently, the scope of the guidance contained in this report is limited to addressing the uncertainties associated with the use of the results of risk models.

In implementing risk-informed decision making, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission expects that appropriate consideration of uncertainty will be given in analyses and interpretation of findings. Such consideration should include using a program of monitoring, feedback, and corrective action to address significant uncertainties. To meet this objective, it is necessary to understand the role that PRA results play in the context of the decision process. Defining the context includes providing an overview of the risk-informed decision making process itself.

With the context defined, the characteristics of a risk model and, in particular, a PRA need to be understood. This understanding includes a recognition of the different forms of uncertainty which include aleatory and epistemic. A PRA, as a probabilistic model already characterizes aleatory uncertainty. The focus of this document is epistemic uncertainty. Therefore, guidance is given on identifying and describing the different types of sources of epistemic uncertainty including the different ways that they are treated. The different types of epistemic uncertainty include parameter, model, and completeness uncertainties.

The final part of the guidance includes addressing the uncertainty in PRA results in the context of risk-informed decision making and, in particular, the interpretation of the results of the uncertainty analysis when comparing PRA results with the acceptance criteria established for a

specified application. In addition, guidance is provided for addressing the other elements contributing to completeness uncertainty in risk-informed decision making (e.g., unknown phenomena that have not been recognized or factors that have been identified but for which there is no agreed on method for addressing them in PRAs).

The Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), in parallel with the NRC, has been developing guidance documents on the treatment of uncertainties. The activities of the NRC and EPRI are meant to be complementary.

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 this document is available to the NRC staff. This document is issued for comment only and is not intended for interim use. The NRC will review public comments received on the document, incorporate suggested changes as necessary, and issue the final NUREG-1855 for use.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 18th day of January, 2008.

For the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Christiana H. Lui,

Director, Division of Risk Analysis, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research.

[FR Doc. E8-2082 Filed 2-4-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Sunshine Federal Register Notice

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETINGS: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

DATE: Weeks of February 4, 11, 18, 25, March 3, 10, 2008

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

STATUS: Public and Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

Week of February 4, 2008

Thursday, February 7, 2008

12:55 p.m.

Affirmation Session (Public Meeting)

a. Final Rule—10 CFR 2.311

“Interlocutory Review of Rulings on Requests for Hearings/Petitions to Intervene, Selection of Hearing Procedures, and Requests by Potential Parties for Access to SUNSI and Safeguards Information” (RIN 3150-A108).

b. Final Rule—Regulatory

Improvements to the Nuclear

Materials Management and Safeguards System (RIN 3150-AH85).

Week of February 11, 2008—Tentative

Monday, February 11, 2008

12:55 p.m.

Affirmation Session (Public Meeting) (Tentative)

a. Final Rule—10 CFR Part 73

“Safeguards Information Protection Requirements” (RIN 3150-AH57) (Tentative).

1 p.m.

Discussion of Security Issues (Closed—Ex. 1).

Week of February 18, 2008—Tentative

Tuesday, February 19, 2008

10:30 a.m.

Meeting with the National Academies Radiation Source Use and Replacement Study Committee (Closed—Ex. 1).

Wednesday, February 20, 2008

9:30 a.m.

Periodic Meeting on New Reactor Issues, Part 1 (Public Meeting) (Contact: Donna Williams, 301-415-1322).

1:30 p.m.

Periodic Meeting on New Reactor Issues, Part 2 (Public Meeting) (Contact: Donna Williams, 301-415-1322).

This meeting, parts 1 and 2, will be webcast live at the Web address—<http://www.nrc.gov>.

Week of February 25, 2008—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the Week of February 25, 2008.

Week of March 3, 2008—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the Week of March 3, 2008.

Week of March 10, 2008—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the Week of March 10, 2008.

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*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: Michelle Schroll, (301) 415-1662.

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

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The NRC provides reasonable accommodation to individuals with disabilities where appropriate. If you

need a reasonable accommodation to participate in these public meetings, or need this meeting notice or the transcript or other information from the public meetings in another format (e.g. braille, large print), please notify the NRC's Disability Program Coordinator, Rohn Brown, at 301-492-2279, TDD: 301-415-2100, or by e-mail at REB3@nrc.gov. Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.

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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: January 31, 2008.

R. Michelle Schroll,

Office of the Secretary.

[FR Doc. 08-512 Filed 2-1-08; 10:37 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

Upon written request, copies available from: U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Investor Education and Advocacy, Washington, DC 20549-0213.

Extension:

Rule 17Ac3-1(a); SEC File No. 270-96; OMB Control No. 3235-015; Form TA-W(1669); SEC File No. 270-96; OMB Control No. 3235-0151.

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 this existing collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget for extension and approval.

Subsection (c)(4)(B) of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78 *et seq.*) authorizes transfer agents registered with an appropriate regulatory agency ("ARA") to withdraw from registration by filing with the ARA a written notice of withdrawal and by agreeing to such terms and conditions as the ARA deems necessary or

appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or in the furtherance of the purposes of Section 17A.

In order to implement Section 17A(c)(4)(B) of the Exchange Act the Commission, on September 1, 1977, promulgated Rule 17Ac3-1(a) (17 CFR 240.17Ac3-1(a)) and accompanying Form TA-W (17 CFR 249b.101). Rule 17Ac3-1(a) provides that notice of withdrawal from registration as a transfer agent with the Commission shall be filed on Form TA-W. Form TA-W requires the withdrawing transfer agent to provide the Commission with certain information, including: (1) The locations where transfer agent activities are or were performed; (2) the reasons for ceasing the performance of such activities; (3) disclosure of unsatisfied judgments or liens; and (4) information regarding successor transfer agents.

The Commission uses the information disclosed on Form TA-W to determine whether the registered transfer agent applying for withdrawal from registration as a transfer agent should be allowed to deregister and, if so, whether the Commission should attach to the granting of the application any terms or conditions necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or in furtherance of the purposes of Section 17A of the Exchange Act. Without Rule 17Ac3-1(a) and Form TA-W, transfer agents registered with the Commission would not have a means for voluntary deregistration when necessary or appropriate to do so.

Respondents file approximately 50 TA-Ws with the Commission annually. A Form TA-W filing occurs only once, when a transfer agent is seeking deregistration. Since the form is simple and straightforward, the Commission estimates that a transfer agent need spend no more than 30 minutes to complete a Form TA-W. Therefore, the total average annual burden to covered entities is approximately 25 hours of preparation and maintenance time.

In view of the ready availability of the information requested by Form TA-W, its short and simple presentation, and the Commission's experience with the filers, we estimate that approximately 30 minutes is required to complete Form TA-W, including clerical time. Approximately 80 percent of these are completed by the transfer agent or its employees and approximately 20 percent are completed by an outside filing agent. In either case, we estimate a cost of approximately \$35 for each 30 minutes. Therefore, the total average annual cost burden is approximately \$1,750.

Written comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Consideration will be given to comments and suggestions submitted in writing within 60 days of this publication.

Comments should be directed to: R. Corey Booth, Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, C/O Shirley Martinson, 6432 General Green Way, Alexandria, Virginia 22312 or send an e-mail to: PRA_Mailbox@sec.gov. Comments must be submitted within 60 days of this notice.

Dated: January 28, 2008.

Florence E. Harmon,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. E8-1966 Filed 2-4-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-57238; File No. 4-429]

Joint Industry Plan; Order Approving Joint Amendment No. 25 to the Plan for the Purpose of Creating and Operating an Intermarket Option Linkage Relating to Response Time for Certain Orders Sent Through the Linkage

January 30, 2008.

I. Introduction

On November 9, 2007, November 13, 2007, November 23, 2007, November 28, 2007, and November 29, 2007, the American Stock Exchange LLC ("Amex"), the Boston Stock Exchange, Inc. ("BSE"), the Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated ("CBOE"), the International Securities Exchange, LLC ("ISE"), the NYSE Arca, Inc. ("NYSE Arca"), and the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, Inc. ("Phlx") (collectively, "Participants"), respectively, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") pursuant to Section 11A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")¹ and Rule

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78k-1.