

Committee on Science and Engineering Indicators (SEI)

Open Session: 9:30 a.m.–10 a.m., Room 1235

- Approval of December 2009 Minutes.
- Chairman's Remarks.
- Report on Washington Rollout of *Indicators 2010*.
- Report on Plans for Second *Indicators 2010* Rollout at AAAS Annual Meeting in San Diego.
- Chairman's Summary.

Plenary Executive Closed

Closed Session: 10 a.m.–10:30 a.m., Room 1235

- Approval of Plenary Executive Closed Minutes, December 2009.
- Board Member Proposals.
- Election of *ad hoc* Committee on Nominating for NSB Elections.
- Approval of Honorary Award Recipient.

Plenary Closed

Closed Session: 10:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m., Room 1235

- Approval of Plenary Closed Minutes, December 2009.
- Awards and Agreements—Committee on Programs and Plans Presentations.
- Closed Committee Reports.

Plenary Open

Open Session: 11:30 a.m.–12 p.m., Room 1235

- 60th Anniversary Distinguished Speaker.

Plenary Open

Open Session: 1 p.m.–3 p.m., Room 1235

- Approval of Open Session Minutes, December 2009.
- Closed Session Items for May 2010 Meeting.
- Chairman's Report.
- Task Force on Merit Review.
- Director's Report.
- Open Committee Reports.

Ann Ferrante,

Technical Writer/Editor.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50-338 and 50-339; NRC-2010-0026]

Virginia Electric and Power Company; North Anna Power Station, Unit Nos. 1 and 2; Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is considering issuance of an exemption, pursuant to Section 73.5, "Specific exemptions," of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) part 73, "Physical protection of plants and materials," from the implementation date for certain requirements of 10 CFR part 73 for Facility Operating License Nos. NPF-4 and NPF-7, issued to Virginia Electric and Power Company, (the licensee), for operation of the North Anna Power Station, Unit Nos. 1 and 2 (NAPS). In accordance with 10 CFR 51.21, "Criteria for and identification of licensing and regulatory actions requiring environmental assessments," the NRC prepared an environmental assessment documenting its finding. The NRC concluded that the proposed actions will have no significant environmental impact.

Environmental Assessment*Identification of the Proposed Action*

The proposed action would exempt the NAPS from the required implementation date of March 31, 2010, for several new requirements of 10 CFR part 73. Specifically, NAPS would be granted an exemption from being in full compliance with certain new requirements contained in Section 73.55, "Requirements for physical protection of licensed activities in nuclear power reactors against radiological sabotage," of 10 CFR part 73 by the March 31, 2010, deadline, Power Reactor Security Requirements, 74 FR 13926, 13935 (March 27, 2009). Instead, the licensee has proposed an alternate full compliance implementation date of August 31, 2010, approximately five months beyond the date required by 10 CFR part 73. The proposed action, an extension of the schedule for completion of certain actions required by the revised 10 CFR part 73, does not involve any physical changes to the reactor, fuel, plant structures, support structures, water, or land at the NAPS site that were not previously considered in the environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact made by the Commission in promulgating its revision to 10 CFR part 73, 74 FR 13967.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application dated November 23, 2009.

The Need for the Proposed Action

The proposed action is needed to provide the licensee with additional time to perform the required upgrades to the NAPS security system due to resource and logistical impacts of vendor availability.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

The NRC has completed its environmental assessment of the proposed exemption. The staff has concluded that the proposed action to extend the implementation deadline would not significantly affect plant safety and would not have a significant adverse effect on the probability of an accident occurring.

The proposed action would not result in an increased radiological hazard beyond those previously analyzed in the environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact made by the Commission in promulgating its revisions to 10 CFR part 73, 74 FR 13967. There will be no change to radioactive effluents that effect radiation exposures to plant workers and members of the public. Therefore, no changes or different types of radiological impacts are expected as a result of the proposed exemption.

The proposed action does not result in changes to land use or water use, or result in changes to the quality or quantity of non-radiological effluents. No changes to the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System permit are needed. No effects on the aquatic or terrestrial habitat in the vicinity of the plant, or to threatened, endangered, or protected species under the Endangered Species Act, or impacts to essential fish habitat covered by the Magnuson-Steven's Act are expected. There are no impacts to the air or ambient air quality.

There are no impacts to historical and cultural resources. There would be no impact to socioeconomic resources. Therefore, no changes to or different types of non-radiological environmental impacts are expected as a result of the proposed exemption.

Accordingly, the NRC concludes that there are no significant environmental impacts associated with the proposed action. In addition, in promulgating its revisions to 10 CFR part 73, the Commission prepared an environmental assessment and published a finding of no significant impact [Part 73, Power Reactor Security Requirements, 74 FR 13926, 13967 (March 27, 2009)].

The NRC staff's safety evaluation will be provided in the exemption, if granted, that will be issued as part of the letter to the licensee approving the exemption to the regulation.

Environmental Impacts of the Alternatives to the Proposed Action

As an alternative to the proposed actions, the NRC staff considered denial of the proposed actions (*i.e.*, the "no-action" alternative). Denial of the exemption request would result in no change in current environmental impacts. If the proposed action was denied, the licensee would have to comply with the March 31, 2010, implementation deadline. The environmental impacts of the proposed exemption and the "no action" alternative are similar.

Alternative Use of Resources

The action does not involve the use of any different resources than those considered in the Final Environmental Statement Related to the Continuation of Construction and the Operation of Units 1 and 2 and the Construction of Units 3 and 4, North Anna Power Station, dated April 1973, as supplemented through the Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants: Supplement 7 Regarding North Anna Power Station, Units 1 and 2—Final Report (NUREG-1437, Supplement 7), dated November 2002.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

In accordance with its stated policy, on December 30, 2009, the NRC staff consulted with the Virginia State official, Mr. Les Foldesi, Division of Radiological Health of the Virginia Department of Health, 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 the licensee's letters dated November 23, 2009. Portions of the November 23, 2009, submittal contain proprietary and safeguards information and, accordingly, are not available to the public. Other parts of these documents may be examined, and/or copied for a fee, at the NRC's Public Document

Room (PDR), located at One White Flint North, Room O-1 F21, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland 20852. Publicly available records will be accessible electronically from the Agencywide Document 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 send an e-mail to pdr.resource@nrc.gov.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this January 21, 2010.

For The Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

V. Sreenivas,

Project Manager, Plant Licensing Branch II-1, Division of Operating Reactor Licensing, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

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BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

January 2010 Pay Adjustments

AGENCY: U.S. Office of Personnel Management.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The President adjusted the rates of basic pay and locality payments for certain categories of Federal employees effective in January 2010. This notice documents those pay adjustments for the public record.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lisa Dismond, Pay and Leave, Employee Services, U.S. Office of Personnel Management; (202) 606-2858; FAX (202) 606-0824; or email to pay-performance-policy@opm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On December 23, 2009, the President signed Executive Order 13525 (74 FR 69231), which implemented the January 2010 pay adjustments. The President made these adjustments consistent with Public Law 111-117, December 16, 2009, which authorized an overall average pay increase of 2.0 percent for the "statutory pay systems," including the General Schedule (GS).

Schedule 1 of Executive Order 13525 provides the rates for the 2010 General Schedule and reflects a 1.5 percent across-the-board increase. Executive Order 13525 also includes the percentage amounts of the 2010 locality payments. (See Section 5 and Schedule 9 of Executive Order 13525.)

The publication of this notice satisfies the requirement in section 5(b) of Executive Order 13525 that the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) publish appropriate notice of the 2010 locality payments in the **Federal Register**.

GS employees receive locality payments under 5 U.S.C. 5304. Locality payments apply in the United States (as defined in 5 U.S.C. 5921(4)) and its territories and possessions. In 2010, locality payments ranging from 4.72 percent to 35.15 percent apply to GS employees in the 32 locality pay areas, Alaska, Hawaii, and the territories and possessions.

The 2010 locality pay percentages, which replaced the 2009 locality pay percentages, became effective on the first day of the first pay period beginning on or after January 1, 2010 (January 3, 2010). An employee's locality rate of pay is computed by increasing his or her scheduled annual rate of pay (as defined in 5 CFR 531.602) by the applicable locality pay percentage. (See 5 CFR 531.604 and 531.609.) (The 2010 locality pay area definitions can be found at <http://www.opm.gov/oca/10tables/locdef.asp>. The Non-Foreign Area Retirement Equity Assurance Act of 2009 contained in subtitle B (sections 1911-1919) of title XIX of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (Pub. L. 111-84, October 28, 2009) extends coverage of the locality pay program to employees in Alaska, Hawaii, and the other nonforeign areas beginning in 2010. For 2010, the statute provides that employees in each of these areas receive one-third of the locality pay percentage approved for the Rest of United States locality pay area.)

Executive Order 13525 establishes the new Executive Schedule, which incorporates a 1.5 percent increase required under 5 U.S.C. 5318 (rounded to the nearest \$100). By law, Executive Schedule officials are not authorized to receive locality payments.

Executive Order 13525 establishes the range of rates of basic pay for senior executives in the Senior Executive Service (SES), as established pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 5382. The minimum rate of basic pay for the SES may not be less than the minimum rate payable under 5 U.S.C. 5376 for senior-level positions (\$119,554 in 2010). The maximum rate of the SES rate range is level II of the Executive Schedule (\$179,700 in 2010) for SES members covered by a certified SES performance appraisal system and level III of the Executive Schedule (\$165,300 in 2010) for SES members covered by an SES performance