

consequences of postulated accidents. This limitation is directly related to the available material properties (both unirradiated and irradiated) used to judge the cladding alloy's anticipated in-reactor performance.

Based upon results of metal-water reaction tests and mechanical testing which ensure the applicability of ECCS models and acceptance criteria, the limited number and anticipated performance of the advanced cladding fuel rods, and the use of approved LOCA models to ensure that the LTAs satisfy 10 CFR 50.46 acceptance criteria, the NRC staff finds it acceptable to grant an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 50.46 and Appendix K to 10 CFR Part 50 for the use of four GNF2 LTAs within HNP-2.

#### *Consistent with Common Defense and Security*

The proposed exemption would allow the licensee to insert four lead test fuel assemblies with fuel rod cladding that does not meet the definition of Zircaloy or ZIRLO™ as specified by 10 CFR 50.46, and Appendix K, into the core of HNP-2, during fuel cycles 22, 23 and 24. This change has no relation to security issues. Therefore, the common defense and security is not impacted by this exemption.

#### *Special Circumstances*

Special circumstances, in accordance with 10 CFR 50.12, are present whenever application of the regulation in the particular circumstances is not necessary to achieve the underlying purpose of the rule. The underlying purpose of 10 CFR 50.46 and Appendix K to 10 CFR Part 50 is to establish acceptance criteria for emergency core cooling system performance. The wording of the regulations in 10 CFR 50.46 and Appendix K is not directly applicable to these advanced cladding alloys, even though the evaluations discussed above show that the intent of the regulations is met. Therefore, since the underlying purpose of 10 CFR 50.46 and Appendix K is achieved with the use of these advanced cladding alloys, the special circumstances required by 10 CFR 50.12 for the granting of an exemption from 10 CFR 50.46 and Appendix K exist.

#### **4.0 Conclusion**

Accordingly, the Commission has determined that, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.12(a), the exemption is authorized by law, will not present an undue risk to the public health and safety, and is consistent with the common defense and security. Also, special circumstances are present. Therefore,

the Commission hereby grants SNC exemptions from the requirements of 10 CFR 50.46, and 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix K, to allow the limited use of four LTAs with GNF-Ziron cladding during fuel cycles 22, 23 and 24 for the HNP-2 plant.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.32, the Commission has determined that the granting of this exemption will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment (75 FR 69137; November 10, 2010).

This exemption is effective upon issuance.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 3rd day of December 2010.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Joseph G. Gitter,**

*Director, Division of Operating Reactor Licensing, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*

[FR Doc. 2010-31173 Filed 12-10-10; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7590-01-P**

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## **OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY**

### **Partially Closed Meeting of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology**

**AGENCY:** President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology, Office of Science and Technology Policy.

**ACTION:** Public notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice sets forth the schedule and summary agenda for a partially closed meeting of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST), and describes the functions of the Council. Notice of this meeting is required under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 5 U.S.C., App.

**DATES:** January 7, 2011.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Marriott Metro Center, 775 12th Street, NW., Room Junior Ballrooms 2-3, Washington, DC.

*Type of Meeting:* Open and Closed.

*Proposed Schedule and Agenda:* The President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST) is scheduled to meet in open session on January 7, 2011 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. with a lunch break from 12:15 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

*Open Portion of Meeting:* During this open meeting, PCAST is tentatively scheduled to hear presentations on agriculture research and development, the National Science Foundation, synthetic biology, national security, and international affairs. PCAST members will also discuss reports they are

developing on the topics of advanced manufacturing and biodiversity preservation and ecosystem sustainability. Additional information and the agenda will be posted at the PCAST Web site at: <http://whitehouse.gov/ostp/pcast>.

*Closed Portion of the Meeting:* PCAST may hold a closed meeting of approximately 1 hour with the President on January 7, 2011, which must take place in the White House for the President's scheduling convenience and to maintain Secret Service protection. This meeting will be closed to the public because such portion of the meeting is likely to disclose matters that are to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(1). The precise date and time of this potential meeting has not yet been determined.

*Public Comments:* It is the policy of the PCAST to accept written public comments of any length, and to accommodate oral public comments whenever possible. The PCAST expects that public statements presented at its meetings will not be repetitive of previously submitted oral or written statements.

The public comment period for this meeting will take place on January 7, 2011 at a time specified in the meeting agenda posted on the PCAST Web site at <http://whitehouse.gov/ostp/pcast>. This public comment period is designed only for substantive commentary on PCAST's work, not for business marketing purposes.

*Oral Comments:* To be considered for the public speaker list at the meeting, interested parties should register to speak at <http://whitehouse.gov/ostp/pcast>, no later than 12 p.m. Eastern Time on Wednesday, December 22, 2010. Phone or e-mail reservations will not be accepted. To accommodate as many speakers as possible, the time for public comments will be limited to two (2) minutes per person, with a total public comment period of 30 minutes. If more speakers register than there is space available on the agenda, PCAST will randomly select speakers from among those who applied. Those not selected to present oral comments may always file written comments with the committee. Speakers are requested to bring at least 25 copies of their oral comments for distribution to the PCAST members.

*Written Comments:* Although written comments are accepted until the date of the meeting, written comments should be submitted to PCAST at least two weeks prior to each meeting date, December 22, 2010, so that the comments may be made available to the

PCAST members prior to the meeting for their consideration. Information regarding how to submit comments and documents to PCAST is available at <http://whitehouse.gov/ostp/pcast> in the section entitled "Connect with PCAST."

Please note that because PCAST operates under the provisions of FACA, all public comments and/or presentations will be treated as public documents and will be made available for public inspection, including being posted on the PCAST Web site.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Information regarding the meeting agenda, time, location, and how to register for the meeting is available on the PCAST Web site at: <http://whitehouse.gov/ostp/pcast>. A live video webcast and an archive of the webcast after the event is expected to be available at <http://whitehouse.gov/ostp/pcast>. The archived video will be available within one week of the meeting. Questions about the meeting should be directed to Dr. Deborah D. Stine, PCAST Executive Director, at [dstine@ostp.eop.gov](mailto:dstine@ostp.eop.gov), (202) 456-6006. Please note that public seating for this meeting is limited and is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST) is an advisory group of the nation's leading scientists and engineers who directly advise the President. See the Executive Order at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/ostp/pcast>. PCAST makes policy recommendations in the many areas where understanding of science, technology, and innovation is key to strengthening our economy and forming policy that works for the American people. PCAST is administered by the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP). PCAST is co-chaired by Dr. John P. Holdren, Assistant to the President for Science and Technology, and Director, Office of Science and Technology Policy, Executive Office of the President, The White House; and Dr. Eric S. Lander, President, Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard.

**Meeting Accommodations:** Individuals requiring special accommodation to access this public meeting should contact Dr. Stine at least ten business days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

**Ted Wackler,**

*Deputy Chief of Staff.*

[FR Doc. 2010-31229 Filed 12-10-10; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE P**

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**Sunshine Act Meeting**

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the Government in the Sunshine Act, Public Law 94-409, that the Securities and Exchange Commission will hold a Closed Meeting on Thursday, December 16, 2010 at 2 p.m.

Commissioners, Counsel to the Commissioners, the Secretary to the Commission, and recording secretaries will attend the Closed Meeting. Certain staff members who have an interest in the matters also may be present.

The General Counsel of the Commission, or his designee, has certified that, in his opinion, one or more of the exemptions set forth in 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(3), (5), (7), (8), 9(B) and (10) and 17 CFR 200.402(a)(3), (5), (7), (8), 9(ii) and (10), permit consideration of the scheduled matters at the Closed Meeting.

Commissioner Walter, as duty officer, voted to consider the items listed for the Closed Meeting in a closed session.

The subject matter of the Closed Meeting scheduled for Thursday, December 16, 2010 will be:

Institution and settlement of injunctive actions;  
Institution and settlement of administrative proceedings;  
Regulatory matters regarding financial institutions; and  
Other matters relating to enforcement proceedings.

At times, changes in Commission priorities require alterations in the scheduling of meeting items.

For further information and to ascertain what, if any, matters have been added, deleted or postponed, please contact: The Office of the Secretary at (202) 551-5400.

Dated: December 9, 2010.

**Elizabeth M. Murphy,**  
*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2010-31393 Filed 12-9-10; 4:15 pm]

**BILLING CODE 8011-01-P**

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**Sunshine Act Meeting**

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the Government in the Sunshine Act, Public Law 94-409, that the Securities and Exchange Commission will hold an Open Meeting on December 15, 2010 at 10 a.m., in the Auditorium, Room L-002.

The subject matters of the Open Meeting will be:

**ITEM 1:** The Commission will consider whether to propose rule 3Cg-1 under the Exchange Act governing the exception to mandatory clearing of security-based swaps under Section 763(a) of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, which is available to counterparties meeting certain conditions. The Commission will also consider related matters, including the exemption for banks, savings associations, farm credit system institutions and credit unions contemplated by Section 763(a).

**ITEM 2:** The Commission will consider whether to propose rule and form amendments to establish a process for the submission for review of security-based swaps for mandatory clearing under Section 763(a) of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act and for the filing of changes to rules, procedures or operations in accordance with Section 806(e) of Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act by clearing agencies that are designated financial market utilities. The Commission also will consider whether to propose a new rule to establish a procedure by which the Commission may stay the mandatory clearing requirement. In addition, the Commission will consider whether to propose a new rule concerning the submission to a clearing agency of a security-based swap for clearing.

**ITEM 3:** The Commission will consider whether to propose rules regarding disclosure and reporting obligations with respect to the use of conflict minerals to implement the requirements of Section 1502 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.

**ITEM 4:** The Commission will consider whether to propose rules regarding disclosure and reporting obligations with respect to mine safety matters to implement the requirements of Section 1503 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.

**ITEM 5:** The Commission will consider whether to propose rules regarding disclosure and reporting obligations with respect to payments to governments made by resource extraction issuers to implement the requirements of Section 1504 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.

At times, changes in Commission priorities require alterations in the scheduling of meeting items.

For further information and to ascertain what, if any, matters have been