amendments involve NSHC. The basis for this determination is contained in the documents related to each action. Accordingly, the amendment has been issued and made effective as indicated. For those amendments that have not been previously noticed in the Federal Register, within 60 days after the date of publication of this notice, any persons (petitioner) whose interest may be affected by this action may file a request for a hearing and petition for leave to intervene (petition) with respect to the action. Petitions shall be filed in accordance with the guidance concerning the Commission’s “Agency Rules of Practice and Procedure” in 10 CFR part 2 as discussed in section II.A of this document.

Unless otherwise indicated, the Commission has determined that the amendment satisfies the criteria for categorical exclusion in accordance with 10 CFR 51.22. Therefore, pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b), no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared for this amendment. If the Commission has prepared an environmental assessment under the special circumstances provision in 10 CFR 51.12(b) and has made a determination based on that assessment, it is so indicated in the safety evaluation for the amendment.

For further details with respect to these actions, see the amendment and associated documents such as the Commission’s letter and safety evaluation, which may be obtained using the ADAMS accession numbers indicated in the following table. The safety evaluation will provide the ADAMS accession number(s) for the application for amendment and the Federal Register citation for any environmental assessment. All of these items can be accessed as described in the “Obtaining Information and Submitting Comments” section of this document.

LICENSE AMENDMENT ISSUANCE—EXIGENT/EMERGENCY CIRCUMSTANCES

Pacific Gas and Electric Company; Diablo Canyon Power Plant, Unit 1; San Luis Obispo County, CA

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Michael I. Dudek,
Deputy Director, Division of Operating Reactor Licensing, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 2021–16925 Filed 8–9–21; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 7590–01–P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
[NRC–2021–0137]

Systematic Assessment for How the NRC Addresses Environmental Justice in Its Programs, Policies, and Activities

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: On July 9, 2021, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) requested comments as part of its systematic review for how NRC programs, policies, and activities address environmental justice. Specifically, the NRC requested input on how the agency is addressing environmental justice, considering the agency’s mission and statutory authority. The information will be used to inform the agency’s assessment of how it addresses environmental justice. The public comment period was originally scheduled to close on August 23, 2021. The NRC has decided to extend the public comment period to allow more time for members of the public to develop and submit their comments.

DATES: The due date for comments requested in the notice published on July 9, 2021 (86 FR 36307) is extended. Submit comments by September 22, 2021. Comments received after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but the NRC is able to ensure consideration only for comments received on or before this date.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any of the following methods:
- Email: NRC-EJReview@nrc.gov.
- Federal Rulemaking website: Go to https://www.regulations.gov and search for Docket ID NRC–2021–0137. Address questions about Docket IDs in Regulations.gov to Stacy Schumann; telephone: 301–415–0624; email: Stacy.Schumann@nrc.gov. For technical questions, contact the individual listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section of this document.

For additional direction on obtaining information and submitting comments, see “Obtaining Information and Submitting Comments” in the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section of this document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Obtaining Information and Submitting Comments

A. Obtaining Information

Please refer to Docket ID NRC–2021–0137 when contacting the NRC about the availability of information for this action. You may obtain publicly available information related to this action by any of the following methods:
- NRC’s Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS): You may obtain publicly available documents online in the ADAMS Public Documents collection at https://www.nrc.gov/reading-ru/adams.html. To begin the search, select
II. Background

The NRC is an independent agency established by the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974 that began operations in 1975 as a successor to the licensing and regulatory activities of the Atomic Energy Commission. The NRC’s mission is to license and regulate the Nation’s civilian use of radioactive materials to provide reasonable assurance of adequate protection of public health and safety and to promote the common defense and security and to protect the environment. As part of its licensing and regulatory activities, the NRC conducts safety, security, and environmental reviews.

Specifically, with respect to environmental reviews, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, 42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq., requires all Federal agencies to evaluate the impacts of proposed major actions on the human environment. As part of its responsibilities under NEPA, the NRC considers environmental justice. According to the Commission, “[t]he term ‘environmental justice’ refers to the federal policy established in 1994 by Executive Order 12898, which directed federal agencies to identify and address ‘disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority and low-income populations.’” Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (Indian Point Nuclear Generating Units 2 and 3), CLI–15–6, 81 NRC 340, 369 (2015).

The NRC, as an independent agency, was requested, rather than directed, to comply with Executive Order 12898, and this Executive Order did not, in itself, create new substantive authority for Federal agencies. In a March 31, 1994, letter to President Clinton, NRC Chairman Ivan Selin indicated that the NRC would endeavor to carry out the measures set forth in Executive Order 12898 and the accompanying memorandum as part of the NRC’s efforts to comply with NEPA (ADAMS Accession No. ML03210526). As noted in the NRC’s 1995 Environmental Justice Strategy (ADAMS Accession No. ML20081K602 (March 24, 1995)), because “the NRC is not a ‘land management’ agency, i.e., it neither sites, owns, or manages facilities or properties,” the NRC determined that Executive Order 12898 would “primarily apply to [NRC] efforts to fulfill” NEPA requirements as part of NRC’s licensing process.

On August 24, 2004, following public comment on a draft Policy Statement (68 FR 62642), the Commission issued its “Policy Statement on the Treatment of Environmental Justice Matters in NRC Regulatory and Licensing Actions” (69 FR 52040). The purpose of this Policy Statement was to set forth a “comprehensive statement of the Commission’s policy on the treatment of environmental justice matters in NRC regulatory and licensing actions.” Id. at 52,041. The Policy Statement explains that the focus of an environmental justice analysis should be on identifying and weighing disproportionately significant and adverse environmental impacts on minority and low-income populations that may be different from the impacts on the general population. It is not a broad-ranging or even limited review of racial or economic discrimination.” Id. at 52,047.

The Policy Statement also reiterates guidance on defining the geographic area for environmental justice assessments and identifying low-income and minority communities. Id. In addition, it explains that a scoping process is used to “assist the NRC in ensuring that minority and low-income communities, including transient and transitory populations, affected by the proposed action are not overlooked in assessing the potential for significant impacts unique to those communities.” Id. at 52,048. In performing a NEPA analysis, “published demographic data, community interviews and public input through well-noticed public scoping meetings should be used in identifying minority and low-income communities that may be subject to adverse environmental impacts.”

On April 23, 2021, in a Staff Requirements Memorandum (ADAMS Accession No. ML21113A070), the Commission directed the staff to “systematically review how the agency’s programs, policies, and activities address environmental justice.” As part of this review, the Commission directed the staff to evaluate recent Executive Orders and assess whether environmental justice is appropriately considered and addressed in the agency’s programs, policies, and activities, given the agency’s mission. As directed, the staff will consider the practices of other Federal, State, and Tribal agencies and evaluate whether the NRC should incorporate environmental justice beyond implementation through NEPA. The staff will also review the adequacy of the 2004 Policy Statement. The Commission further directed the staff to consider whether establishing formal mechanisms to gather external stakeholder input would benefit any future environmental justice efforts. To carry out the Commission’s direction, the staff is seeking to engage stakeholders and interested persons representing a broad range of perspectives. This Federal Register notice is part of this engagement effort.

III. Requested Information and Comments

On July 9, 2021, the NRC published a notice in the Federal Register (86 FR 36307) requesting comments. The comment period was originally scheduled to close on August 23, 2021. The NRC staff has decided to extend the comment period until September 13,
2021, to allow more time for members of the public to submit their comments. The NRC is interested in obtaining a broad range of perspectives from stakeholders and interested persons. The focus of this request is to gather information to inform systematic assessment for how the NRC addresses environmental justice in its programs, policies, and activities, considering the agency’s mission and statutory authority. The NRC is particularly interested in receiving input on the following questions:

(1) What is your understanding of what is meant by environmental justice at the NRC?

(2) As described in the Commission’s 2004 Policy Statement on the Treatment of Environmental Justice Matters in NRC Regulatory and Licensing Actions (69 FR 52040), the NRC currently addresses environmental justice in its NEPA reviews to determine if a proposed agency action will have disproportionately high and adverse impacts on minority and low-income communities, defined as environmental justice communities.

(a) When the NRC is conducting licensing and other regulatory reviews, the agency uses a variety of ways to gather information from stakeholders and interested persons on environmental impacts of the proposed agency action, such as in-person and virtual meetings. Federal Register notices requesting input, and dialog with community organizations.

(i) How could the NRC expand how it engages and gathers input?

(ii) What formal tools might there be to enhance information gathering from stakeholders and interested persons in NRC’s programs, policies, and activities?

(iii) Can you describe any challenges that may affect your ability to engage with the NRC on environmental justice issues?

(b) How could the NRC enhance opportunities for members of environmental justice communities to participate in licensing and regulatory activities, including the identification of impacts and other environmental justice concerns?

(c) What ways could the NRC enhance identification of environmental justice communities?

(d) What has the NRC historically done well, or currently does well that we could do more of or expand with respect to environmental justice in our programs, policies, and activities, including engagement efforts? In your view, what portions of the 2004 Policy Statement are effective?

(3) What actions could the NRC take to enhance consideration of environmental justice in the NRC’s programs, policies and activities and agency decision-making, considering the agency’s mission and statutory authority?

(a) Would you recommend that NRC consider any particular organization’s environmental justice program(s) in its assessment?

(b) Looking to other Federal, State, and Tribal agencies’ environmental justice programs, what actions could the NRC take to enhance consideration of environmental justice in the NRC’s programs, policies, and activities?

(c) Considering recent Executive Orders on environmental justice, what actions could the NRC take to enhance consideration of environmental justice in the NRC’s programs, policies, and activities?

(d) Are there opportunities to expand consideration of environmental justice in NRC programs, policies, and activities, considering the agency’s mission? If so, what are they?


For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Gregory F. Suber,
Director, Environmental Justice Review Team, Office of the Executive Director for Operations.

BILLING CODE 7590–01–P

SEcurities AND EXchange COMMISSION


Self-Regulatory Organizations; Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc.: Order Approving a Proposed Rule Change To Adopt a Supplemental Liquidity Schedule, and Instructions Thereto, Pursuant to FINRA Rule 4524 (Supplemental FOCUS Information)

August 4, 2021.

I. Introduction

On April 30, 2021, the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (“FINRA”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC” or “Commission”), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act (“Exchange Act”) 1 and Rule 19b–4 thereunder, 2 a proposed rule change to adopt a Supplemental Liquidity Schedule, and Instructions thereto, pursuant to FINRA Rule 4524 (Supplemental FOCUS Information).

The proposed rule change was published for comment in the Federal Register on May 18, 2021. 3 The comment period closed on June 8, 2021. The Commission received one comment letter in response to the Notice. 4 On June 22, 2021, FINRA extended the time period in which the Commission must approve the proposed rule change, disapprove the proposed rule change, or institute proceedings to determine whether to disapprove the proposed rule change to August 16, 2021. On July 7, 2021, FINRA responded to the comment letter received in response to the Notice. 5 For the reasons discussed below, the Commission is approving the proposed rule change.

II. Description of the Proposed Rule Change 6

FINRA Rule 4524 provides in part that FINRA may require certain members to file supplements to the Financial and Operational Combined Uniform Single Report (“FOCUS Report”), which is filed pursuant to Rule 17a–5 under the Exchange Act 7 and FINRA Rule 2010. These supplements may include such additional financial or operational schedules or reports as FINRA may deem necessary or appropriate for the protection of investors or in the public interest. FINRA Rule 4524 further requires FINRA to file a proposed schedule or report with the Commission pursuant to section 19(b) of the Exchange Act. Pursuant to FINRA Rule 4524, FINRA proposed to adopt a Supplemental Liquidity Schedule (“SLS”), and Instructions thereto.

A FINRA member that would be required to file the Form SLS would report detailed information relating to the member’s:

SEC.

FOCUS Information).


2 See Letter from Kevin Zambrowicz, Managing Director & Associate General Counsel, the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (“SIFMA”), dated June 8, 2021 (“SIFMA Letter”).


4 The subsequent description of the proposed rule change is substantially excerpted from FINRA’s description in the Notice. See Notice, 86 FR at 27005–06.

5 17 CFR 240.17a–5 (“Rule 17a–5”). Paragraph (a) of Rule 17a–5 requires a broker-dealer to file a version of the FOCUS Report.
