

pollutants, maximum concentrations are within the NAAQS, and impacts to local air quality associated with these pollutants would be minor. NMI is prepared to undertake mitigative action to prevent potential exceedances of the short-term SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS, and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection is prepared to resolve the issue.

#### *Accident Evaluation*

The EA evaluated one accident as the bounding accident: the potential quantities of uranium and nonradiological materials that might be released to the atmosphere in the unlikely event of a major fire at the NMI facility. The regulatory analysis documented in NUREG-1140 (McGuire 1988), which assessed the accident potential for doses exceeding EPA protective action guides, was used to evaluate potential impacts. For uranium, NUREG-1140 found that the highest doses come from the inhalation pathway. The analysis shows a committed effective dose equivalent of 0.89 rems at 100 m (330 ft) might occur to a nearby downwind individual that would result from a fire involving the limiting value quantities agreed to by NMI of 454,000 kg (1,000,000 lb) of depleted uranium in any one building. This value is less than the EPA-recommended lower limit for consideration of protective actions (i.e., a dose of 1 rem). Therefore, radiological impacts resulting from exposure to natural uranium during a severe fire would not be major.

NMI's operations with licensed material involve use of several acids. The evaluation of the potential impacts of these nonradiological materials was based on a release to the atmosphere using the same accidental fire scenario as for the radiological materials. The results were compared to the Emergency Response Planning Guidelines (ERPGs) established by the American Industrial Hygiene Association, the immediately dangerous to life and health (IDLH) threshold value, established by the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), and the LC<sub>50</sub>, the concentration which would result in fatalities to 50 percent of the exposed population. Of the acids, only sulfuric (H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) caused concern as the predicted concentration of H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> is below the LC<sub>50</sub> but higher than the ERPG levels. These results were discussed with Commonwealth of Massachusetts staff and NMI is prepared to discuss the potential for an accidental H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> release with local emergency response officials.

#### *Conclusion*

The NRC staff concludes that the environmental impacts associated with the proposed license renewal for continued operation of the NMI's Concord, Massachusetts facility are expected to be insignificant.

#### *Finding of No Significant Impact*

The Commission has prepared an EA related to the renewal of Special Nuclear Material Licenses SMB-179 and SUB-1452. On the basis of the assessment, the Commission has concluded that environmental impacts that would be created by the proposed action would not be significant and do not warrant the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement. Accordingly, it has been determined that a Finding of No Significant Impact is appropriate.

The EA is being made available as NUREG/CR-6528. Copies of NUREG/CR-6528 may be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, P.O. Box 37082, Washington, DC 20402-9328. Copies are also available from the National Technical Information Service, 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, VA 22161. A copy is also available for inspection and copying for a fee in the NRC Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, NW. (Lower Level), Washington, DC 20555-0001.

#### *Opportunity for a Hearing*

Any person whose interest may be affected by the issuance of this renewal may file a request for a hearing. Any request for hearing must be filed with the Office of the Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, within 30 days of the publication of this notice in the Federal Register; be served on the NRC staff (Executive Director for Operations, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852), and on the licensee (Nuclear Metals, Inc., 2229 Main Street, Concord, MA 01742); and must comply with the requirements for requesting a hearing set forth in the Commission's regulations, 10 CFR Part 2, Subpart L, "Information Hearing Procedures for Adjudications in Materials Licensing Proceedings."

These requirements, which the request must address in detail, are:

1. The interest of the requestor in the proceeding;
2. How that interest may be affected by the results of the proceeding (including the reasons why the requestor should be permitted a hearing);

3. The requestor's areas of concern about the licensing activity that is the subject matter of the proceeding; and

4. The circumstances establishing that the request for hearing is timely—that is, filed within 30 days of the date of this notice.

In addressing how the requestor's interest may be affected by the proceeding, the request should describe the nature of the requestor's right under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, to be made a party to the proceeding; the nature and extent of the requestor's property, financial, or other (i.e., health, safety) interest in the proceeding; and the possible effect of any order that may be entered in the proceeding upon the requestor's interest.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 20th day of February, 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Larry W. Camper,

*Chief, Medical, Academic, and Commercial Use Safety Branch, Division of Industrial and Medical Nuclear Safety, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.*

[FR Doc. 97-5385 Filed 3-4-97; 8:45 am]

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#### **[Docket No. 50-344]**

#### **Portland General Electric Company, Trojan Nuclear Plant; Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact**

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering the issuance of an order approving an application regarding a proposed merger involving the holding company for Portland General Electric Company (PGE, the licensee), holder of Facility Operating License No. NPF-1, for the Trojan Nuclear Plant located on the west bank of the Columbia River in Columbia County, Oregon. The Trojan Nuclear Plant permanently ceased operating in January 1993 and is being decommissioned.

#### *Environmental Assessment*

##### *Identification of the Proposed Action*

The proposed action would approve, by issuance of an order, the application under 10 CFR 50.80 regarding the merger between Portland General Corporation (PGC), the parent company of PGE, a 67.5 percent holder of the Trojan Nuclear Plant license, and Enron Corporation (Enron). Enron is a Delaware corporation engaged in the gathering, transportation, and wholesale marketing of natural gas. PGC has agreed to a merger with Enron, subject to certain conditions. Those conditions

include approval by the shareholders of the companies and obtaining appropriate governmental approvals which do not impose terms or conditions that would be reasonably likely to have an adverse effect on PGE or Enron. Under an Agreement and Plan of Merger, Enron will become an Oregon corporation (hereinafter referred to as the "Merger Company"), and PGC will merge with and into the Merger Company. Shares of stock held in Enron and in PGC would be converted into shares of the Merger Company on a one-for-one basis. The proposed action is in accordance with PGE's application dated August 20 1996, as supplemented by letters dated October 16, 1996, and October 30, 1996.

#### *The Need for the Proposed Action*

The proposed action is required to facilitate the merger between PGC and Enron.

#### *Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action*

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed merger and concludes that there will be no physical or operational change to the decommissioning activities now in progress at the Trojan Nuclear Plant as a result of the merger. The merger will not affect the qualifications or organizational affiliations of the personnel responsible for the decommissioning activities at the Trojan Nuclear Plant.

The merger will not affect PGE's status as a regulated public utility in the State of Oregon. PGE will continue to be headquartered in Portland, Oregon and senior management will remain in place. According to the licensee, the planned merger of PGE's parent company, PGC, with the Merger Company should improve the overall financial strength and stability of PGE's parent after the merger. After the merger, PGE will continue to be the NRC licensee for Trojan Nuclear Plant and no direct transfer of the operating license or interests in the unit will result from the merger.

The Commission has evaluated the environmental impact of the proposed action and has determined that the probability and consequences of accidents would not be increased by the merger, and that radiological releases, both normal releases and accidental releases, would not be greater than previously evaluated. Further, the Commission has determined that the merger would not increase occupational radiological exposure. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological environmental

impacts associated with the proposed action.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the merger would not affect nonradiological plant effluents and would have no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

#### *Alternatives to the Proposed Action*

Having concluded that there are no significant environmental effects that would result from the proposed action, the Commission has no need to evaluate any alternative with equal or greater environmental impacts.

The principal alternative would be to deny the requested action. Denial of the application would not change the environmental impact. The environmental impact of the proposed action and the alternative action are the same.

#### *Alternative Use of Resources*

This action does not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement for the Trojan Nuclear Plant dated August 1973 or the Final Generic Environmental Impact Statement on Decommissioning of Nuclear Facilities, dated August 1988.

#### *Agencies and Persons Contacted*

In accordance with its stated policy, on Feb. 10, 1997, the staff consulted with Mr. Adam Bless, of the Oregon Department of Energy, regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. Mr. Bless had no comments.

#### *Finding of No Significant Impact*

On the basis of the environmental assessment, the Commission concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, the Commission 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 letter dated August 20 1996, as supplemented by letters dated October 16, 1996, and October 30, 1996, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., and at the local public document room for the Trojan Nuclear Plant located at the Branford Price Millar Library, Portland State University, Portland, Oregon 97207.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 27th day of February 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.  
Seymour H. Weiss,  
*Director, Non-Power Reactors and  
Decommissioning Project Directorate,  
Division of Reactor Program Management,  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*  
[FR Doc. 97-5386 Filed 3-4-97; 8:45 am]

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#### **Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste, Revised Notice**

The agenda of the 90th meeting of the Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW) scheduled for March 20 and 21, 1997, in Room T-2B3, at 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland is being revised to include a session to discuss:

- **10 CFR Part 960**—The ACNW will review an options paper prepared by the NRC staff for commenting on DOE's recently revised Siting Guidelines in 10 CFR Part 960. These guidelines are now Yucca Mountain specific.

All other items pertaining to this meeting remain the same as published in the Federal Register on Tuesday, February 18, 1997 (62 FR 7280).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Richard K. Major, Chief, Nuclear Waste Branch (telephone 301/415-7366), between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. EDT.

ACNW meeting notices, meeting transcripts, and letter reports are now available on FedWorld from the "NRC MAIN MENU." Direct Dial Access number to FedWorld is (800) 303-9672; the local direct dial number is 703-321-3339.

Dated: February 27, 1997.  
Andrew L. Bates,  
*Advisory Committee Management Officer.*  
[FR Doc. 97-5390 Filed 3-4-97; 8:45 am]  
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#### **OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT**

##### **Excepted Service**

**AGENCY:** Office of Personnel Management.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This gives notice of positions placed or revoked under Schedules A and B, and placed under Schedule C in the excepted service, as required by Civil Service Rule VI, Exceptions from the Competitive Service.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Patricia H. Paige, Staffing Reinvention Office, Employment Service (202) 606-0830.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Office of Personnel Management published its