

under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(4) and (6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act would be improperly disclosed.

Dated: August 3, 1998.

M. Rebecca Winkler,
Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 98-21046 Filed 8-5-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-298]

Nebraska Public Power District (Cooper Nuclear Station); Notice of Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating License

The United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission (Commission) has issued Amendment No. 178 to Facility Operating License No. DPR-46, issued to Nebraska Public Power District (licensee) for operation of the Cooper Nuclear Station located in Nemaha County, Nebraska.

The amendment is effective as of the date of issuance.

The amendment replaces, in its entirety, the current Technical Specifications (TS) with a set of improved TS based on NUREG-1433, "Standard Technical Specifications, General Electric Plants, BWR/4," Revision 1, dated April 1995, and on guidance provided in the Commission's "Final Policy Statement on Technical Specifications Improvements for Nuclear Power Reactors," published on July 22, 1993 (58 FR 39132), and 10 CFR 50.36, as amended July 19, 1995 (60 FR 36953). In addition, the amendment adds two license conditions to the newly-created Appendix C of the operating license that require (1) the relocation of previous TS requirements into licensee-controlled documents and (2) the first performance of new and revised surveillance requirements for the new improved TS to be related to the implementation date for the improved TS. The implementation of the amendment and the license conditions will be completed no later than 90 days after the date of the amendment, as stated in the amendment.

The application for the amendment, as supplemented, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations. The Commission has made appropriate findings as required by the Act and the Commission's rules and regulations in 10 CFR Chapter I.

Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment and Opportunity for

Hearing in connection with this action was published in the **Federal Register** on March 17, 1998 (63 FR 13074). No request for a hearing or petition for leave to intervene was filed following this notice.

The Commission has prepared an Environmental Assessment and has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement related to the action to convert the current TS to the improved TS. Based on the Environmental Assessment, the Commission has concluded that the issuance of the amendment will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment beyond that described in the Final Environmental Statement (FES) related to the operation of the CNS dated February 1973. The Environmental Assessment was published in the **Federal Register** on July 29, 1998 (63 FR 40549).

For further details with respect to the amendment see (1) the application for amendment dated March 27, 1997, as supplemented by (a) two letters in 1997 dated September 29 and December 22, and (6) 9 letters in 1998 dated February 9, March 13, March 26, April 16, May 6, June 23, and July 13 (two letters), July 29, and (2) the Commission's related Safety Evaluation and Environmental Assessment. All of these items are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., and at the local public document room located at the Auburn Memorial Library, 1810 Courthouse Avenue, Auburn, Nebraska 68305.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 31st day of July 1998.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Jack N. Donohew,

Senior Project Manager, Project Directorate IV-1, Division of Reactor Projects III/IV, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 98-21041 Filed 8-5-98; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-423]

Northeast Nuclear Energy Company; Notice of Withdrawal of Application for Amendment to Facility Operating License

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has granted a request by Northeast Nuclear Energy Company (the licensee) to withdraw its November 21, 1995, application for an amendment to

Facility Operating License No. NPF-49, issued to the licensee for operation of Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 3, located in New London County, Connecticut. A Notice of Consideration of Issuance of this amendment was published in the **Federal Register** on March 27, 1996 (61 FR 13520).

The proposed change would have modified the facility Technical Specifications (TSs) pertaining to TS Section 1.33 and Bases Sections 3/4.3.3.9, 3/4.3.3.10, and 3/4.11.2.1. The change would have clarified the definition of source check to include a source check from a light emitting diode, as well as from ionizing radiation.

Subsequently, the licensee informed the staff that the amendment is no longer required. Thus, the amendment application is considered to be withdrawn by the licensee.

For further details with respect to this action, see (1) the application for amendment dated November 21, 1995; and (2) the staff's letters dated July 14, 1998, and July 30, 1998.

These documents are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, DC, and at the local public document rooms located at the Learning Resources Center, Three Rivers Community-Technical College, 574 New London Turnpike, Norwich, Connecticut, and the Waterford Library, ATTN: Vince Juliano, 49 Rope Ferry Road, Waterford, Connecticut.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 30th day of July 1998.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

James W. Andersen,

Project Manager, Special Projects Office—Licensing, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 98-21042 Filed 8-5-98; 8:45 am]

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PACIFIC NORTHWEST ELECTRIC POWER AND CONSERVATION PLANNING COUNCIL

Northwest Conservation and Electric Power Plan

AGENCY: Pacific Northwest Electric Power and Conservation Planning Council (Northwest Power Planning Council, Council).

ACTION: Notice of final action adopting Fourth Northwest Conservation and Electric Power Plan.

SUMMARY: Following the mandate set out in the Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act of 1980

(16 U.S.C. 839 et seq.) (the Act), in April 1983 the Council adopted a regional power plan, the Northwest Conservation and Electric Power Plan (the plan). The plan was completely amended in 1986. Although the Act requires the Council to review the plan at least every five years, the Council has taken up certain parts of the plan more often, to respond to ongoing changes in the regional energy picture and to incorporate the most recent technology and analysis. The Council amended the plan in 1989 by publishing the 1989 Supplement to the 1986 Power Plan, updating certain technical data. In April 1991, the Council adopted another complete amendment of the plan. In March 1996, the Council released for public comment the Draft Fourth Power Plan.

The Council deferred adoption of the power plan pending completion of the Comprehensive Review of the Northwest Energy System, and systematic examination of the region's electrical energy system conducted at the behest of the four Northwest Governors. On August 22, 1997, once the Comprehensive Review had adopted its recommendations, the Council issued an Addendum to the draft plan on and took public comment through October 31, 1997. Hearings on the draft plan and the Addendum were conducted throughout the four Northwest states, as required by statute.

The Fourth Northwest Conservation and Electric Power Plan and the Addendum, taken together, constitute the complete Power Plan. Changes that resulted from the intervening Comprehensive Review and public comment were not incorporated in the draft power plan document itself, but were set out in the Addendum. In those cases, then, in which Addendum updates the data and analyses of the Fourth Plan document, the Addendum governs.

Along with the plan and Addendum, the Council adopted a Response to Comments. This document summarizes all the major comments submitted during the course of public consideration of the plan and Addendum and shows how the Council responded to those issues.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The electricity industry nationwide continues to work through a radical restructuring. To give the four Northwest states a voice in how this restructuring affect the region, the governors' "Comprehensive Review of the Northwest Energy System" studied the power system and made recommendations about its future.

In light of this restructuring, the Fourth Power Plan has taken a different

approach from that of earlier plans. the 1991 Power Plan, for example, has a its theme: "a time for action." In contrast, this plan focuses on "Northwest Power in Transition: Issues and Opportunities." This Power Plan has fewer policy determination or recommended actions. Instead, it is designed to serve as a guidebook for the region's transition to a restructured industry. It has background on the industry and analysis of the major issues that must be addressed as the Northwest moves into a new energy future. Its goal reflects that of the governors in convening the regional review: to develop, through a public process, recommendations for changes in the institutional structure of the region's electric utility industry. The resulting system, the governors said, should "protect the region's natural resources and distribute equitably the costs and benefits of a more competitive marketplace" while still ensuring the region of "an adequate, efficient, economical and reliable power system," in the words of the Northwest Power Act.

This Power Plan has the components required by the Northwest Power Act. It includes, among other elements: energy conservation program, a recommendation for research and development; a methodology for determining quantifiable environmental costs and benefits; a twenty year demand forecast; a forecast of power resources that the Bonneville Power Administration will need to meet its obligations; an analysis of reserve and reserve reliability requirements; and a surcharge methodology. The plan also includes the Council's Fish and Wildlife Program, developed pursuant to other procedural requirements under the Act.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you would like copies of any of these documents, please contact the Council's central office. the Fourth Power Plan is publication 98-22, the technical appendices are publication 98-22A, the Addendum is publication 98-23, and the Response to Comments is publication 98-24. You may order all or any part of this series you wish. The technical appendices may be ordered by individual sections. Please call 1-503-222-5161 or 1-800-222-3355. You may FAX your request to 1-503-795-3370. If you wish to make a request by e-mail, please e-mail to comments@nwppc.org. All of these documents are also available on the Council's web-site: <http://www.nwppc/downdocs.htm>.

Please contact the Council's public affairs division for further information.

Stephen L. Crow,

Executive Director.

[FR Doc. 98-20978 Filed 8-5-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-AJ-M

RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

Agency Forms Submitted for OMB Review

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) has submitted the following proposal(s) for the collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget for review and approval.

Summary of Proposal(s)

(1) *Collection title:* Appeal Under the Railroad Retirement and Railroad Unemployment Act.

(2) *Form(s) submitted:* HA-1.

(3) *OMB Number:* 3220-0007.

(4) *Expiration date of current OMB clearance:* 10/31/1998.

(5) *Type of request:* Revision of a currently approved collection.

(6) *Respondents:* Individuals or households.

(7) *Estimated annual number of respondents:* 1,350.

(8) *Total annual responses:* 1,350.

(9) *Total annual reporting hours:* 449.

(10) *Collection description:* Under section 7(b)(3) of the Railroad Retirement Act and section 5(c) of the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act, a person aggrieved by a decision on his or her application for an annuity or other benefit has the right to appeal to the RRB. The collection provides the method for the appeal action.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS:

Copies of the form and supporting documents can be obtained from Chuck Mierzwa, the agency clearance officer (312-751-3363). Comments regarding the information collection should be addressed to Ronald J. Hodapp, Railroad Retirement Board, 844 North Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611-2092 and the OMB reviewer, Laura Oliven (202-395-7316), Office of Management and Budget, Room 10230, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

Chuck Mierzwa,

Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 98-21055 Filed 8-5-98; 8:45 am]

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