

### Alternative Use of Resources

This action does not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the "Final Environmental Statement Related to the Operation of Wolf Creek Generating Station, Unit No. 1" dated June 1982.

### Agencies and Persons Contacted

In accordance with its stated policy, on March 8, 1999, the staff consulted with the Kansas State official, Mr. Vick Cooper, of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, 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 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 application for amendment dated May 15, 1997, as supplemented by letters dated June 30, August 5, August 28, September 24, October 16, October 23, November 24, December 2, December 17, and December 21, 1998, and January 15, 1999, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document rooms located at Emporia State University, William Allen White Library, 1200 Commercial Street, Emporia, Kansas 66801, and Washburn University School of Law Library, Topeka, Kansas 66621.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 17th day of March 1999.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Kristine M. Thomas,**

*Project Management, Project Directorate IV-2, Division of Licensing Project Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*

[FR Doc. 99-7031 Filed 3-22-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

### Public Workshop To Provide Information on the Pilot Plant Performance Indicators

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will hold a public

workshop to provide information to selected NRC inspectors and licensee staff of the Reactor Oversight Process Pilot Program. This meeting is open to the public.

**DATES:** The workshop will be held from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. April 12 through April 15, 1999. The first two hours of the workshop on April 12 will be dedicated to check-in procedures.

**ADDRESSES:** The workshop will be held at the Holiday Inn, 1250 Roosevelt road, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** August Spector at 301-415-2140 or Lee Miller at 423-855-6510, Mail Stop: O-5H4, Inspection Program Branch, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Background

On January 8, 1999, the staff issued SECY-99-007, forwarding the staff's recommendations for a new reactor oversight process. On January 20, 1999, the staff briefed the Commission on the staff's proposal described in SECY-99-007. The following issues represent a brief summary of the concepts presented in SECY-99-007.

Over the last 10 years, commercial nuclear power plants have been operated safely and overall plant performance has improved. This improvement in plant performance can be attributed, in part, to successful regulatory oversight. Despite this success, the agency has noted that the current reactor oversight process (1) is at times not clearly focused on the most safety important issues, (2) consists of redundant actions and outputs, and (3) is frequently subjective, with NRC action taken in a manner that is at times neither scrutable nor predictable.

In the new regulatory oversight process:

- There will be a risk-informed baseline inspection program that establishes the minimum direct inspection effort for all licensees.
- Thresholds will be established for licensee safety performance, below which increased NRC interaction would be warranted.
- Adequate assurance of licensee performance will require assessment of both performance indicators (PIs) and inspection findings.
- Both PIs and inspection findings will be evaluated against risk-informed thresholds, where feasible.
- Crossing a PI threshold and an inspection threshold will have the same meaning with respect to safety significance and required NRC interaction.

- The baseline inspection program will cover those risk-significant attributes of licensee performance not adequately covered by PIs.

- The baseline inspection program will also verify the accuracy of PI data collection and analysis and provide for event response, as appropriate.

- Enforcement actions will be focused on issues that are risk significant.

- Guidelines will be established for identifying and responding to unacceptable licensee performance.

Additionally, the staff will pilot the new reactor oversight process during a 6-month period beginning in June 1999. The purpose of the pilot program is to exercise the new processes (PI reporting, inspection, assessment, and enforcement), to identify process and procedure problems and make appropriate changes and, to the maximum extent possible, evaluate the effectiveness of the new process. Full implementation of the new oversight process will commence pending successful completion of the pilot program, as measured against pre-established success criteria. A notable feature of the pilot program is the use of the Pilot Program Evaluation Panel, consisting of NRC, NEI, industry, public, and State representatives, to aid in evaluating the effectiveness of the pilot program. This workshop will focus on the pilot plant participants and specifically address performance indicator reporting requirements.

### Scope of the Public Workshops

The NRC will hold a four day workshop from April 12-15, 1999 to provide information on the new performance indicator reporting requirements to selected NRC inspectors and licensee staff participating in the Reactor Oversight Process Pilot Program. In order to meet the objectives of the workshop, active participants will be limited to 48 NRC and licensee personnel who will be participating in the pilot program. Other interested parties may observe, up to a total of 150 additional individuals. NRC and licensee staff may choose to rotate cognizant individuals into the active participant ranks as applicable. 18 slots will be reserved for the nine pilot plants, 25 for the regional offices, and five seats reserved for NRC Headquarters and Regional Senior Reactor Analysts. The pilot plants are: Hope Creek, Salem Units 1 and 2, Fitzpatrick, Prairie Island Units 1 and 2, Quad Cities Units 1 and 2, Shearon Harris, Sequoyah Units 1 And 2, Ft. Calhoun, and Cooper.

The agenda for the workshop will consist of the following:

- Day 1: registration and check-in, opening remarks, and initiating events performance indicators
- Day 2: mitigating systems and barrier performance indicators.
- Day 3: barrier performance indicators (continued) and Emergency Preparedness performance indicators.
- Day 4: occupational exposure, public exposure, and physical protection performance indicators.

**Note:** Each day will end with a question and answer session.

### Workshop Pre-Registration

Active participants and observers at the workshop are requested to pre-register with the NRC approximately two weeks before the workshop. Attendees may pre-register in either of the following ways:

(1) Fax to Elaine Toro at (301) 415-3707

(2) Mail to: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Attn: Elaine Toro, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Mailstop O5H4, Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 17th day of March, 1999.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**William M. Dean,**

*Chief Inspection Program Branch, Division of Inspection Program Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*

### Cornerstone Performance Indicator

**Workshop Registration, Holiday Inn, Glen Ellyn, IL, April 12—15, 1999**

(Please Print)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(last) (first)

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(department, division or unit)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(street or P.O. box)

(city) (state) (zip code)

Pilot Plant (Yes/No) \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (home): \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (business): (ext) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (for name badge): \_\_\_\_\_

Mail your registration form to: Elaine Toro, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Mail Stop O-5H2, Washington, DC 20555.

Fax your registration form to: 301-415-3707 Attention: Elaine Toro.

THIS REGISTRATION FORM IS FOR THE WORKSHOP ONLY. PLEASE MAKE HOTEL RESERVATIONS SEPARATELY.

[FR Doc. 99-7030 Filed 3-22-99; 8:45 am]

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## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

### Sunshine Act Meeting

**AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**DATE:** Weeks of March 22, 29, April 5, and 12, 1999.

**PLACE:** Commissioners' Conference Room, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

**STATUS:** Public and Closed.

**MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:**

*Week of March 22*

Thursday, March 25

2:30 p.m.—Briefing on Part 35 Rulemaking (Public Meeting)  
(Contact: Patricia Holahan, 301-415-8125)

Friday, March 28

9:00 a.m.—Briefing on Proposed Reactor Oversight Process Improvements & Enforcement (Public Meeting)  
(Contact: William Dean, 301-415-2240)

12:30 p.m.—Affirmation Session (Public Meeting)

\* (Please Note: This item will be affirmed immediately following the conclusion of the preceding meeting.)

a: Changes to Paragraph (h) of 10 CFR Part 50.55a, "Codes and Standards"

*Week of March 29—Tentative*

There are no meetings scheduled for the Week of March 29.

*Week of April 5—Tentative*

There are no meetings scheduled for the Week of April 5.

*Week of April 12*

Wednesday, April 14

9:00 a.m.—Briefing on Investigative Matters (Closed—Ex. 5 & 7)

11:00 a.m.—Briefing on Remaining Issues Related to Proposed Restart of Millstone Unit 2 (Public Meeting)  
(Contact: William Dean, 301-415-2240)

Thursday, April 15

2:00 p.m.—Briefing on Status of Uranium Recovery (Public Meeting)  
(Contact: King Stablein, 301-415-7238)

3:00 p.m.—Affirmation Session (Public Meeting) (If needed)

Friday, April 16

9:30 a.m.—Briefing on Rulemaking For Generally Licensed Devices (Public Meeting) (Contact: Patricia Holahan, 301-415-8125)

\*The schedule for Commission meetings is subject to change on short notice. To verify the status of meetings call (recording)—(301) 415-1292. Contact Person for more information: Bill Hill (301) 415-1661.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** By a vote of 5-0 on March 17, the Commission determined pursuant to U.S.C. 552b(e) and §9.107(a) of the Commission's rules that "Affirmation of Radiological Criteria for License Termination of Uranium Recovery Facilities" (PUBLIC MEETING) be held on March 17, and on less than one week's notice to the public.

The NRC Commission Meeting Schedule can be found on the Internet at: <http://www.nrc.gov/SECY/smj/schedule.htm>

This notice is distributed by mail to several hundred subscribers; if you no longer wish to receive it, or would like to be added to it, please contact the Office of the Secretary, Attn: Operations Branch, Washington, DC 20555 (301-415-1661). In addition, distribution of this meeting notice over the Internet system is available. If you are interested in receiving this Commission meeting schedule electronically, please send an electronic message to [wmh@nrc.gov](mailto:wmh@nrc.gov) or [dkw@nrc.gov](mailto:dkw@nrc.gov).

Dated: March 19, 1999.

**William M. Hill, Jr.,**

*SECY, Tracking Officer, Office of the Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 99-7189 Filed 3-19-99; 2:12 pm]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-M

## RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

### Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the requirement of Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 which provides opportunity for public comment on new or revised data collections, the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) will publish periodic summaries of proposed data collections.

*Comments are invited on:* (a) Whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information has practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the RRB's estimate of the burden of the collection of the information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden related to the collection of information on respondents, including the use of