from the 1998 questionnaire was dropped from the survey.

There are no modifications to the Follow-Up Survey, because the first cycle of the survey (1998) has not yet been completed.

**Use of the information**

The information from the Facilities survey will be used by Federal policymakers, planners, and budget analysis in making policy decisions as well as by academic officials, the S&E establishment, and State agencies that fund universities and colleges. The survey will provide updated data on the status of and trends in S&E research facilities to help policymakers with decisions about the health of academic S&E research, funding, regulations, and reporting guidelines. The Follow-Up Survey will collect additional information to supplement the original survey data. The data collected using the Follow-Up Survey is expected to be used to make more exact and, as a result, more valid judgements concerning the reasonableness of facility costs.

Specifically, the Facilities data will be used in:

- A separate report of the findings for Congress;
- A special report for NIH on the Status of Biomedical Research Facilities;
- Other NSF compilations such as National Patterns of R&D Resources and Science and Engineering Indicators;
- Special reports for other Federal agencies on an as-needed basis; and
- A public release file of collected data in aggregate form made available to researchers on the World Wide Web.

**Expected Respondents**

The sample size for the 1999 survey is planned to be increased to the size of the universe of institutions in the NSF 1997 Survey of Scientific and Engineering Expenditures at Universities and Colleges. This universe is selected to provide nationally representative data for both undergraduate and graduate degree-granting schools. The respondents will have the option to complete the survey on the World Wide Web. Based on experience with similar populations, we expect some forty percent (40%) of the institutions to respond via the Internet. Eligibility for inclusion in the Follow-up Survey is based upon responses to the Facilities Survey. There is no sampling involved in the determination of institutions who will be asked to participate. All qualified institutions will be included in this study. It is estimated that approximately 43 academic institutions will be eligible for the Follow-Up Survey.

**Burden on the Public**

The average completion time for the survey by academic institutions was reduced from 43 to 24 hours between 1988 and 1998. This decrease reflected continued improvements in the questionnaire, institutional databases, and, more recently, the introduction of the option to complete the survey on disk.

Much of the data noted in the the proposed modification are readily available to the respondents. It is expected that the proposed modifications to the questionnaire will decrease burden hours due to the inclusion of skip patterns on the survey itself, clarification of all instructions to the respondent, and the option to use an Internet-based version of the survey. We expect that the overall response time will be an average of 22 hours.

The Follow-Up Survey will be sent to qualifying institutions, of which there is expected to be approximate 43. The completion time per academic institution is expected to average 1.5 hours

Dated: June 25, 1999.

**Suzanne Plimpton,**

*NSF Reports Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 99–16671 Filed 6–29–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–M

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### Committee Management; Renewals

The NSF management officials having responsibility for the 26 advisory committees listed below have determined that renewing these groups for another two years is necessary and in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed upon the Director, National Science Foundation (NSF), by 42 U.S.C. 1861 *et seq*. This determination follows consultation with the Committee Management Secretariat, General Services Administration.

1. Advisory Committee for Small Business Industrial Innovation (#61)
2. Advisory Committee for Biological Sciences (#1110)
3. Advisory Committee for Education & Human Resources (#1119)
4. Advisory Committee for Polar Programs (#1130)
5. Advisory Panel for Biochemistry & Molecular Structure & Function (#1134)
6. Advisory Panel for Cell Biology (#1136)
7. Advisory Panel for Developmental Mechanisms (#1141)
8. Advisory Panel for Genetics (#1149)
9. Advisory Panel for Neuroscience (#1158)
10. Advisory Panel for Physiology and Ethnology (#1160)
11. Advisory Committee for Engineering (#1170)
12. Alan T. Waterman Award Committee (#1172)
13. Advisory Panel for Biological Infrastructure (#1215)
14. Special Emphasis Panel in Science & Technology Infrastructure (#1373)
15. Earth Sciences Proposal Review Panel (#1569)
16. Advisory Panel for Ecological Studies (#1751)
17. Advisory Panel for Systematic & Population Biology (#1753)
18. Special Emphasis Panel in Biological Sciences (#1754)
19. Advisory Committee for Geosciences (#1755)
20. Special Emphasis Panel in Geosciences (#1756)
21. Advisory Panel for Anthropological & Geographic Sciences (#1757)
22. Advisory Panel for Cognitive, Psychological & Language Sciences (#1758)
23. Advisory Panel for Economics, Decision & Management Sciences (#1759)
24. Advisory Panel for Methods, Cross-Directorate and Science and Society (#1760)
25. Advisory Panel for Social & Political Sciences (#1761)
26. Special Emphasis Panel in Social, Behavioral & Economic Sciences (#1766)

Authority for these Committees will expire on June 30, 2001, unless they are renewed. For more information, please contact Karen York, NSF, at (703) 306–1182.

Dated: June 25, 1999.

**Karen J. York,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 99–16670 Filed 6–29–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–M

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

**[Docket No. 50–443]**

### North Atlantic Energy Service Corporation, et al.; Seabrook Station, Unit 1; Notice of Consideration of Approval of Application Regarding Proposed Corporate Merger and Opportunity for a Hearing

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is

considering the issuance of an order under 10 CFR 50.80 approving the indirect transfer of Facility Operating License No. NPF–86 for the Seabrook Station, Unit 1 (Seabrook Station), to the extent held by New England Power Company (NEP), one of 11 joint owners of the Seabrook Station. The indirect transfer would be to The National Grid Group plc (National Grid) resulting from the planned merger of National Grid and New England Electric System (NEES), the parent company of NEP.

According to the application by NEP for approval of the indirect transfer, on December 11, 1998, NEES entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger with National Grid, a holding company incorporated in England and Wales. Upon consummation of the merger, NEES will become a wholly-owned indirect subsidiary of National Grid with NEP remaining a subsidiary of NEES, thereby effecting an indirect transfer of NEP's interest in the Seabrook Station's Facility Operating License. North Atlantic Energy Service Corporation, the sole licensed operator of the facility, would remain as the managing agent for the 11 joint owners of the facility and would continue to have exclusive responsibility for the management, operation and maintenance of the Seabrook Station. The application does not propose a change in the rights, obligations, or interests of the other joint owners of the Seabrook Station. In addition, no physical changes to the Seabrook Station or operational changes are being proposed. No direct transfer of the license will result from the proposed merger.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.80, no license, or any right thereunder, shall be transferred, directly or indirectly, through transfer of control of the license, unless the Commission shall give its consent in writing. The Commission will approve an application for the indirect transfer of a license, if the Commission determines that the proposed transfer of control will not affect the qualifications of the holder of the license, and that the transfer is otherwise consistent with applicable provisions of law, regulations, and orders issued by the Commission pursuant thereto.

The filing of requests for hearing and petitions for leave to intervene, and written comments regarding the license transfer application, are discussed below.

By July 20, 1999, any person whose interest may be affected by the Commission's action on the application may request a hearing, and, if not the applicants, may petition for leave to intervene in a hearing proceeding on the Commission's action. Requests for a hearing and petitions for leave to intervene should be filed in accordance with the Commission's rules of practice set forth in Subpart M, ''Public Notification, Availability of Documents and Records, Hearing Requests and Procedures for Hearings on License Transfer Applications,'' of 10 CFR part 2. In particular, such requests and petitions must comply with the requirements set forth in 10 CFR 2.1306, and should address the considerations contained in 10 CFR 2.1308(a). Untimely requests and petitions may be denied, as provided in 10 CFR 2.1308(b), unless good cause for failure to file on time is established. In addition, an untimely request or petition should address the factors that the Commission will also consider, in reviewing untimely requests or petitions, set forth in 10 CFR 2.1308(b)(1)–(2).

Requests for a hearing and petitions for leave to intervene should be served upon Edward Berlin, Esq., and Scott P. Klurfeld, Esq., Swidler Berlin Shereff Friedman, LLP, 3000 K Street, NW, Suite 300, Washington, DC 20007–5116, attorneys for New England Power Company; Thomas G. Robinson, Esq., New England Power Company, 25 Research Drive, Westborough, MA 01582, attorney for New England Power Company; Samuel Behrends IV, Esq., Mary A. Murphy, Esq., and Yvonne M. Coviello, Esq., LeBoeuf, Lamb, Greene & MacRae, L.L.P., 1875 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 1200, Washington, DC 20009, attorneys for the National Grid Group plc and NGG Holdings LLC; Paul K. Connolly, Jr., Esq., LeBoeuf, Lamb, Greene & MacRae, L.L.P., 260 Franklin Street, Boston, MA 02110, attorney for NGG Holdings LLC; Lillian M. Cuoco, Esq., Senior Nuclear Counsel, Northeast Utilities Service Company, 107 Selden Street, Berlin, Connecticut, 06037, attorney for North Atlantic Energy Service Corporation; the General Counsel, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555 (e-mail address for filings regarding license transfer cases only: OGCLT@NRC.gov); and the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555–0001, Attention: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff, in accordance with 10 CFR 2.1313.

The Commission will issue a notice or order granting or denying a hearing request or intervention petition, designating the issues for any hearing that will be held and designating the Presiding Officer. A notice granting a hearing will be published in the **Federal Register** and served on the parties to the hearing.

As an alternative to requests for hearing and petitions to intervene, by July 30, 1999, persons may submit written comments regarding the license transfer application, as provided for in 10 CFR 2.1305. The Commission will consider and, if appropriate, respond to these comments, but such comments will not otherwise constitute part of the decisional record. Comments should be submitted to the Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555–0001, Attention: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff, and should cite the publication date and page number of this **Federal Register** notice.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application dated March 15, 1999, submitted under cover of a letter dated March 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 Seabrook Station local public document room located at the Exeter Public Library, Founders Park, Exeter, NH 03833.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 21st day of June 1999.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**John T. Harrison,**

*Project Manager, Section 2, Project Directorate I, Division of Licensing Project Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*

[FR Doc. 99–16600 Filed 6–29–99; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7590–01–P**

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## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

**[Docket No. 50–423]**

## Northeast Nuclear Energy Company, et al. Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit 3; Notice of Consideration of Approval of Application Regarding Proposed Corporate Merger and Opportunity for a Hearing

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering the issuance of an order under 10 CFR 50.80 approving the indirect transfer of Facility Operating License No. NPF–49 for the Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 3 (Millstone Unit 3), to the extent held by New England Power Company (NEP), one of 13 joint owners of Millstone Unit 3. The indirect transfer would be to The National Grid Group plc (National Grid) resulting from the planned merger of National Grid and New England Electric System (NEES), the parent company of NEP.