

Commonwealth Edison Company (ComEd, the licensee), for operation of the Dresden Nuclear Power Station, Units 2 and 3, located in Grundy County, Illinois.

### Environmental Assessment

#### *Identification of Proposed Action*

The proposed action would exempt the licensee from certain emergency lighting requirements of 10 CFR part 50, Appendix R, Section III.J, applicable to Dresden, Units 2 and 3. The exemption will allow the use of hand-held portable lights to provide lighting for outdoor access and egress routes between the main power block, the isolation condenser pumphouse, the cribhouse, the clean demineralized water storage tank, and for reading the clean demineralized water storage tank level instrument.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application dated November 19, 1998.

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

Equipment needed for safe shutdown at Dresden, Units 2 and 3, is maintained inside the main power block and several buildings onsite. However, access and egress between these buildings, the clean demineralized water storage tank (CDST), and the main power block requires walking outdoors. These outdoor areas are normally lit by outdoor lighting powered by offsite power or emergency power from the security diesel. This installed outdoor and security lighting does not meet the Appendix R requirements for an 8-hour battery power supply.

Implementation of outdoor battery powered lighting units to meet Appendix R requirements would result in expenditure of engineering, construction, and plant resources for their installation, maintenance, and operation. The requested exemption from the requirements of Appendix R, Section III.J, would allow the use of hand-held portable lights, in the event that sufficient daylight or security lighting is not available, when transiting access and egress routes between the main power block, the isolation condenser pumphouse, the cribhouse, and the CDST, including reading the CDST level instrument. The exemption is needed to avoid the unnecessary expenditure of resources.

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

The NRC has completed its evaluation of the proposed action and concludes that with the availability of hand-held battery-powered portable lights for use

during transit between these site structures and for reading the CDST level instrument, the installation of emergency lighting units with at least an 8-hour battery supply for these transit routes and the CDST level instrument is not necessary to achieve the underlying purpose of Section III.J of Appendix R to 10 CFR part 50.

The proposed action will not significantly increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types of any effluents that may be released off site, and there is no significant increase in occupational or public radiation exposure. Therefore, there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

With regard to potential non-radiological impacts, the proposed action does not involve any historic sites. It does not affect non-radiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, there are no significant non-radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Accordingly, the NRC concludes that there are no significant environmental impacts associated with this action.

#### *Alternative to the Proposed Action*

As an alternative to the proposed action, the staff considered denial of the proposed action (*i.e.*, the "no-action" alternative). Denial of the exemption would result in no change in current environmental impacts. The environmental impacts of the proposed action and the alternative action are similar.

#### *Alternative Use of Resources*

This action does not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statements for Dresden, Units 2 and 3.

#### *Agencies and Persons Consulted*

In accordance with its stated policy, on December 8, 1999, the staff consulted with the Illinois official, Mr. Frank Niziolek of the Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety, 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 NRC concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, the NRC has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed exemption.

For further details with respect to this action, see the licensee's letter dated November 19, 1998, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, The Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington DC. Publicly available records will be accessible electronically from the ADAMS Public Library component on the NRC Web site, <http://www.nrc.gov> (the Electronic Reading Room).

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

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Anthony J. Mendiola,**

*Chief, Section 2, Project Directorate III,  
Division of Licensing Project Management,  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*

[FR Doc. 99-33679 Filed 12-27-99; 8:45 am]

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## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

### Public Workshop To Develop a Standard Review Plan for Decommissioning

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces a public workshop the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is sponsoring to solicit input from stakeholders during the development of a Standard Review Plan (SRP) and other guidance for decommissioning nuclear facilities.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On October 21, 1998, NRC announced that it was sponsoring a series of public workshops to support the staff's development of an SRP and other guidance for the decommissioning of nuclear facilities. On November 18, 1998, NRC published the schedule for these workshops and indicated that a workshop would be held on October 20-21, 1999, at NRC Headquarters, at Two White Flint North, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD. On September 8, 1999, NRC staff announced that it was postponing the October workshop until February 2000. The new date for the workshop is February 18 and 19, 2000. The workshop will be held at the NRC Headquarters in the Two Flint North Auditorium, at 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD. The workshop will begin at 8:30 a.m. and end at 4:30 p.m. on both days.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dominick A. Orlando, Decommissioning Branch, Division of Waste Management, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, at (301) 415-6749.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 20th day of December 1999.

For the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Robert A. Nelson,**

*Acting Chief, Decommissioning Branch,  
Division of Waste Management, Office of  
Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.*  
[FR Doc. 99-33681 Filed 12-27-99; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7590-01-P**

## **NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

### **Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste Notice of Meeting**

The Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW) will hold its 116th meeting on January 13 and 14, 2000, Room T-2B3, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

The entire meeting will be open to public attendance.

The schedule for this meeting is as follows:

*Thursday, January 13, 2000—5 p.m.*

*until the conclusion of business*

*Friday, January 14, 2000—12 Noon until  
the conclusion of business*

The Committee will prepare ACNW letter reports and discuss ACNW Planning and Procedures as time allows.

**Preparation of ACNW Reports (Open)**—The Committee will discuss planned reports on the following topics: The Department of Energy's Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Repository at Yucca Mountain, NV; the rubblization decommissioning option; the NRC's proposed high-level waste regulation; and other topics discussed during this and previous meetings as the need arises.

**ACNW Planning and Procedures (Open)**—The Committee will consider topics proposed for future consideration by the full Committee and Working Groups. This will include strategic planning and self-assessment. The Committee may also discuss ACNW-related activities of individual members.

**Miscellaneous (Open)**—The Committee will discuss miscellaneous matters related to the conduct of Committee and organizational activities and complete discussion of matters and specific issues that were not completed during previous meetings, as time and availability of information permit.

Procedures for the conduct of and participation in ACNW meetings were published in the **Federal Register** on September 28, 1999 (64 FR 52352). In accordance with these procedures, oral or written statements may be presented by members of the public, electronic recordings will be permitted only during those portions of the meeting

that are open to the public, and questions may be asked only by members of the Committee, its consultants, and staff. Persons desiring to make oral statements should notify Richard K. Major, ACNW, as far in advance as practicable so that appropriate arrangements can be made to schedule the necessary time during the meeting for such statements. Use of still, motion picture, and television cameras during this meeting will be limited to selected portions of the meeting as determined by the ACNW Chairman. Information regarding the time to be set aside for taking pictures may be obtained by contacting the ACNW office, prior to the meeting. In view of the possibility that the schedule for ACNW meetings may be adjusted by the Chairman as necessary to facilitate the conduct of the meeting, persons planning to attend should notify Mr. Major as to their particular needs.

Further information regarding topics to be discussed, whether the meeting has been canceled or rescheduled, the Chairman's ruling on requests for the opportunity to present oral statements and the time allotted therefore can be obtained by contacting Mr. Richard K. Major, ACNW (Telephone 301/415-7366), between 8 A.M. and 5 P.M. EST. ACNW meeting notices, meeting transcripts, and letter reports are now available for downloading or reviewing on the internet at <http://www.nrc.gov/ACRSACNW>.

Videoteleconferencing service is available for observing open sessions of ACNW meetings. Those wishing to use this service for observing ACNW meetings should contact Mr. Theron Brown, ACNW Audiovisual Technician (301-415-8066), between 7:30 a.m. and 3:45 p.m. EST at least 10 days before the meeting to ensure the availability of this service. Individuals or organizations requesting this service will be responsible for telephone line charges and for providing the equipment and facilities that they use to establish the videoteleconferencing link. The availability of videoteleconferencing services is not guaranteed.

Dated: December 21, 1999.

**Andrew L. Bates,**

*Advisory Committee Management Officer.*

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## **NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

### **Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards; Meeting of the ACRS Subcommittee on Plant Operations**

The ACRS Subcommittee on Plant Operations will hold a meeting on January 20, 2000, Room T-2B3, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

The entire meeting will be open to public attendance.

The agenda for the subject meeting shall be as follows:

*Thursday, January 20, 2000—8:30 a.m.*

*until the conclusion of business*

The Subcommittee will discuss selected technical components of the revised reactor oversight process, including the updated significance determination process and plant performance indicators. The purpose of this meeting is to gather information, analyze relevant issues and facts, and to formulate proposed positions and actions, as appropriate, for deliberation by the full Committee.

Oral statements may be presented by members of the public with the concurrence of the Subcommittee Chairman and written statements will be accepted and made available to the Committee. Electronic recordings will be permitted only during those portions of the meeting that are open to the public, and questions may be asked only by members of the Subcommittee, its consultants, and staff. Persons desiring to make oral statements should notify the cognizant ACRS staff engineer named below five days prior to the meeting, if possible, so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

During the initial portion of the meeting, the Subcommittee, along with any of its consultants who may be present, may exchange preliminary views regarding matters to be considered during the balance of the meeting.

The Subcommittee will then hear presentations by and hold discussions with representatives of the NRC staff and other interested persons regarding this review.

Further information regarding topics to be discussed, whether the meeting has been canceled or rescheduled, and the Chairman's ruling on requests for the opportunity to present oral statements and the time allotted therefor, can be obtained by contacting the cognizant ACRS staff engineer, Mr. Michael T. Markley (telephone 301/415-6885) between 7:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. (EST). Persons planning to attend this meeting are urged to contact the above named individual one or two