

*Conservation Act of 1978*, Public Law 95-541.

**SUMMARY:** The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish notice of permit applications received to conduct activities regulated under the *Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978*. NSF has published regulations under the Antarctic Conservation Act at Title 45 Part 670 of the Code of Federal Regulations. This is the required notice of permit applications received.

**DATES:** Interested parties are invited to submit written data, comments, or views with respect to this permit application by October 17, 2011. This application may be inspected by interested parties at the Permit Office, address below.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be addressed to Permit Office, Room 755, Office of Polar Programs, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22230.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Polly A. Penhale at the above address or (703) 292-7420.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The National Science Foundation, as directed by the *Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978* (Pub. L. 95-541), as amended by the *Antarctic Science, Tourism and Conservation Act of 1996*, has developed regulations for the establishment of a permit system for various activities in Antarctica and designation of certain animals and certain geographic areas requiring special protection. The regulations establish such a permit system to designate Antarctic Specially Protected Areas.

The applications received are as follows:

#### **Permit Application: 2012-007.**

1. *Applicant:* Paul Morin, Department of Geology And Geophysics, University of Minnesota, 310 Pillsbury Drive, SE., Minneapolis, MN 55455.

#### **Activity for Which Permit Is Requested**

Enter an Antarctic Specially Protected Area. The applicant plans to enter the Antarctic Specially Protect Areas at Cape Royds, Ross Island (ASP 121) and Cape Crozier (ASP 124) to collect ground control with highly precise GPS equipment. The applicant will seek out readily identifiable boulders and peaks gathering precise GPS coordinates of that location, and taking notes and picture of the surrounding area. Other activities would include delineating boundaries of penguin colonies, ASPAs, and important environmental features. The data collected will be used to create

accurate maps of areas of important scientific and environmental importance within the Ross Sea region.

#### **Location**

ASP 121—Cape Royds, Ross Island, and ASP 124—Cape Crozier, Ross Island.

#### **Dates**

October 10, 2011 to January 31, 2012.

**Nadene G. Kennedy,**

*Permit Officer, Office of Polar Programs.*

[FR Doc. 2011-23707 Filed 9-15-11; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7555-01-P**

### **NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

[Docket No. 50-271; NRC-2011-0074; License No. DPR-28]

#### **Entergy Nuclear Vermont Yankee, LLC and Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.; Notice of Issuance of Director's Decision**

Notice is hereby given that the Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, has issued a Director's Decision with regard to a petition dated January 14, 2011, Mr. Thomas Saporito, hereinafter referred to as the "petitioner." The petition concerns the operation of the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station (VY).

The petition requested that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC): (1) Issue a confirmatory order requiring the licensee to immediately bring the reactor in question to a cold shutdown mode of operation; (2) issue a civil penalty against the licensee; (3) remove the licensee's employees responsible for this matter from NRC licensed activities for a period of no less than 5 years; and (4) perform an immediate NRC investigation and inspection of VY to ensure that all nuclear safety-related systems are properly operational in accordance with the licensee's technical specification and NRC license.

The petition raises concerns originating from inoperability of main steam safety relief valves (SRVs) due to leakage through the shaft to piston thread seals. This event did potentially affect the ability of the SRVs to perform their manual and Automatic Depressurization System (ADS) function since the combined thread seal leakage and accumulator leakage impacted the ability of the SRVs to satisfy design actuation requirements. Due to the redundancy in ADS design, the availability of the high-pressure core injection system, and the availability of a safety-class backup nitrogen supply,

the ability to depressurize the reactor was maintained, and there was no potential adverse impact to public health and safety.

The Petition Review Board (PRB) met on February 2, 2011, and made an initial recommendation to accept the petition, in part, concerning the failure of relief valve because this issue met the criteria for review. The NRC communicated this decision to the petitioner, who requested an opportunity to address the PRB to provide comments to the PRB's initial recommendation and additional information in support of the petition. By teleconference on February 14, 2011, the petitioner provided information to the PRB in support of the request for an immediate shutdown and an immediate NRC investigation and inspection of VY. The PRB confirmed its initial recommendation because the additional information provided on February 14, 2011, did not change the PRB's decision to deny the request for immediate action.

The NRC sent a copy of the proposed Director's Decision to the petitioner and the licensee for comment on July 14, 2011. The staff has not received any comments from the licensee. The petitioner responded with comments on August 1, 2011, which have been addressed in the Director's Decision.

Copies of the petition (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML110190233) and the Director's Decision (ADAMS Accession No. ML112240960) are available for inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room (PDR) at One White Flint North, Public File Area O1 F21, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland, and electronically in the NRC Library at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. NRC Management Directive 8.11, "Review Process for 10 CFR 2.206 Petitions" (ADAMS Accession No. ML041770328), describes the petition review process. Persons who do not have access to ADAMS or who have problems in accessing the documents in ADAMS should contact the NRC PDR reference staff by telephone at 1-800-397-4209 or 301-415-4737, or by e-mail to [PDR-Resource@nrc.gov](mailto:PDR-Resource@nrc.gov).

A copy of the Director's Decision will be filed with the Secretary of the Commission for the Commission's review in accordance with 10 CFR 2.206 of the Commission's regulations. As provided for by this regulation, the Director's Decision will constitute the final action of the Commission 25 days after the date of the decision, unless the Commission, on its own motion,

institutes a review of the Director's Decision in that time.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 9th day of September 2011.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Eric J. Leeds,**  
Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor  
Regulation.

[FR Doc. 2011-23787 Filed 9-15-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[NRC-2011-0204]

### Proposed Generic Communication; Draft NRC Generic Letter 2011-XX: Seismic Risk Evaluations for Operating Reactors

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory  
Commission.

**ACTION:** Draft generic letter; comment  
period extension and correction.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is correcting a notice appearing in the **Federal Register** on September 1, 2011 (76 FR 54507), that requested public comment on Draft NRC Generic Letter 2011-XX: Seismic Risk Evaluations for Operating Reactors. This action is necessary to correct the Docket ID information for submitting comments and accessing publicly available documents related to the draft generic letter in the **ADDRESSES** section and the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section. Due to this error, the NRC is extending the comment period from October 31, 2011, to November 15, 2011.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Cindy Bladey, Chief, Rules, Announcements and Directives Branch, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001; telephone: 301-492-3667 or e-mail: [Cindy.Bladey@nrc.gov](mailto:Cindy.Bladey@nrc.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On page 54507 of **Federal Register** document 2011-22422, published September 1, 2011 (76 FR 54507), in the second column, under the section titled **ADDRESSES**, first paragraph, "NRC-2011-0201" is corrected to read "NRC-2011-0204." Also, on page 54507 of the same document, in the second column, under the section titled **ADDRESSES**, first bulleted item, "NRC-2011-0201" is corrected to read "NRC-2011-0204." On page 54508 of the same document, in the first column, under the section titled **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**, second bulleted item, "NRC-2011-0201" is corrected to read "NRC-2011-0204."

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 12th day of September, 2011.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Cindy Bladey,**  
Chief, Rules, Announcements and Directives  
Branch, Division of Administrative Services,  
Office of Administration.

[FR Doc. 2011-23706 Filed 9-15-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

## POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. A2011-64; Order No. 847]

### Post Office Closing

**AGENCY:** Postal Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This document informs the public that an appeal of the closing of the Ionia, Iowa post office has been filed. It identifies preliminary steps and provides a procedural schedule. Publication of this document will allow the Postal Service, petitioners, and others to take appropriate action.

**DATES:** *Administrative record due (from Postal Service):* September 21, 2011; *deadline for notices to intervene:* October 4, 2011. See the Procedural Schedule in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for other dates of interest.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit comments electronically by accessing the "Filing Online" link in the banner at the top of the Commission's Web site (<http://www.prc.gov>) or by directly accessing the Commission's Filing Online system at <https://www.prc.gov/prc-pages/filing-online/login.aspx>. Commenters who cannot submit their views electronically should contact the person identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section as the source for case-related information for advice on alternatives to electronic filing.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Stephen L. Sharfman, General Counsel, at 202-789-6820 (case-related information) or [DocketAdmins@prc.gov](mailto:DocketAdmins@prc.gov) (electronic filing assistance).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 404(d), on September 6, 2011, the Commission received a petition for review of the Postal Service's determination to close the Ionia post office in Ionia, Missouri. The petition was filed by William Smart, Mayor of the City of Ionia, Missouri (Petitioner) and was received by the Commission on August 31, 2011. The Commission hereby institutes a proceeding under 39 U.S.C. 404(d)(5) and establishes Docket No. A2011-64 to consider Petitioner's

appeal. If Petitioner would like to further explain his position with supplemental information or facts, Petitioner may either file a Participant Statement on PRC Form 61 or file a brief with the Commission no later than October 11, 2011.

*Categories of issues apparently raised.* Petitioner contends that: (1) The Postal Service failed to consider the effect of the closing on the community (see 39 U.S.C. 404(d)(2)(A)(i)); and (2) the Postal Service failed to consider whether or not it will continue to provide a maximum degree of effective and regular postal services to the community (see 39 U.S.C. 404(d)(2)(A)(iii)).

After the Postal Service files the administrative record and the Commission reviews it, the Commission may find that there are more legal issues than those set forth above, or that the Postal Service's determination disposes of one or more of those issues. The deadline for the Postal Service to file the applicable administrative record with the Commission is September 21, 2011. See 39 CFR 3001.113. In addition, the due date for any responsive pleading by the Postal Service to this Notice is September 21, 2011.

*Availability; Web site posting.* The Commission has posted the appeal and supporting material on its Web site at <http://www.prc.gov>. Additional filings in this case and participants' submissions also will be posted on the Commission's Web site, if provided in electronic format or amenable to conversion, and not subject to a valid protective order. Information on how to use the Commission's Web site is available online or by contacting the Commission's webmaster via telephone at 202-789-6873 or via electronic mail at [prc-webmaster@prc.gov](mailto:prc-webmaster@prc.gov).

The appeal and all related documents are also available for public inspection in the Commission's docket section. Docket section hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., eastern time, Monday through Friday, except on Federal government holidays. Docket section personnel may be contacted via electronic mail at [prc-dockets@prc.gov](mailto:prc-dockets@prc.gov) or via telephone at 202-789-6846.

*Filing of documents.* All filings of documents in this case shall be made using the Internet (Filing Online) pursuant to Commission rules 9(a) and 10(a) at the Commission's Web site, <http://www.prc.gov>, unless a waiver is obtained. See 39 CFR 3001.9(a) and 3001.10(a). Instructions for obtaining an account to file documents online may be found on the Commission's Web site or by contacting the Commission's docket section at [prc-dockets@prc.gov](mailto:prc-dockets@prc.gov) or via telephone at 202-789-6846.