

used for LTOP. Code Case N-514, "Low Temperature Overpressure Protection," has been approved by the ASME Code Committee. The content of this Code case has been incorporated into Appendix G of Section XI of the ASME Code and Published in the 1993 Addenda to Section XI. The NRC staff is revising 10 CFR 50.55a, which will endorse the 1993 Addenda and Appendix G of Section XI into the regulations.

An exemption from 10 CFR 50.60 is required to use the alternate methodology for calculating the maximum allowable pressure for the LTOP setpoint. By application dated October 3, 1994, as supplemented March 1, 1995, the licensee requested an exemption from 10 CFR 50.60 for this purpose.

In addition to requesting the exemption from 10 CFR 50.50, the licensee proposed an amendment to the Technical Specifications revising the LTOP analysis. The new analysis removes the non-conservatism as described previously.

III

Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.12, the Commission may, upon application by any interested person or upon its own initiative, grant exemptions from the requirements of 10 CFR part 50 when (1) the exemptions are authorized by law, will not present an undue risk to public health or safety, and are consistent with the common defense and security; and (2) when special circumstances are present. Special circumstances are present whenever, according to 10 CFR 50.12(a)(2)(ii), "Application of the regulation in the particular circumstances would not serve the underlying purpose of the rule or is not necessary to achieve the underlying purpose of the rule * * *"

The underlying purpose of 10 CFR 50.60 Appendix G is to establish fracture toughness requirements for ferritic materials of pressure-retaining components of the reactor coolant pressure boundary to provide adequate margins of safety during any condition of normal operation, including anticipated operational occurrences, to which the pressure boundary may be subjected over its service lifetime. Section IV.A.2 of this appendix requires that the reactor vessel be operated with P/T limits at least as conservative as those obtained by following the methods of analysis and the required margins of safety of Appendix G of the ASME Code.

Appendix G of the ASME Code requires that the P/T limits be calculated: (a) Using a safety factor of 2

on the principal membrane (pressure) stresses, (b) assuming a flaw at the surface with a depth of one-quarter (1/4) of the vessel wall thickness and a length of six (6) times its depth, and (c) using a conservative fracture toughness curve that is based on the lower bound of static, dynamic, and crack arrest fracture toughness tests on material similar to the Vogtle reactor vessel material.

In determining the setpoint for LTOP events, the licensee proposed to use safety margins based on an alternate methodology consistent with the proposed ASME Code Case N-514 guidelines. The ASME Code Case N-514 allows determination of the setpoint for LTOP events such that the maximum pressure in the vessel would not exceed 110% of the P/T limits of the existing ASME Appendix G. This results in a safety factor of 1.8 on the principal membrane stresses. All other factors, including assumed flaw size and fracture toughness, remain the same. Although this methodology would reduce the safety factor on the principal membrane stresses, the proposed criteria will provide adequate margins of safety to the reactor vessel during LTOP transients and will satisfy the underlying purpose of 10 CFR 50.60 for fracture toughness requirements.

Using the licensee's proposed safety factors instead of Appendix G safety factors to calculate the LTOP setpoint will permit a higher LTOP setpoint than would otherwise be required and will provide added margin to prevent normal operating surges from lifting the PORVs or cavitation of the reactor coolant pumps.

IV

For the foregoing reasons, the NRC staff has concluded that the licensee's proposed use of the alternate methodology in determining the acceptable setpoint for LTOP events will not present an undue risk to public health and safety and is consistent with the common defense and security. The NRC staff has determined that there are special circumstances present, as specified in 10 CFR 50.12(a)(2), such that application of 10 CFR 50.60 is not necessary in order to achieve the underlying purpose of this regulation.

Accordingly, the Commission has determined that, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.12(a), this exemption is authorized by law, will not endanger life or property or common defense and security, and is, otherwise, in the public interest. Therefore, the Commission hereby grants the licensee an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 50.60 such that in determining the setpoint for

LTOP events, the Appendix G curves for P/T limits are not exceeded by more than 10 percent in order to be in compliance with these regulations. This exemption is applicable only to LTOP conditions during normal operation.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.32, the Commission has determined that the granting of this exemption will not result in any significant adverse environmental impact (60 FR 28178).

This exemption is effective upon issuance.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 5th day of June 1995.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Steven A. Varga,

*Director, Division of Reactor Projects—I/II,
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*

[FR Doc. 95-14299 Filed 6-9-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-M

PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Meeting of the President's Council on Sustainable Development (PCSD) in Washington, DC; Notice

SUMMARY: The President's Council on Sustainable Development, a partnership of industry, government, and environmental, labor, Native American, and civil rights organizations, will convene its ninth meeting in Washington, DC.

The President's Council on Sustainable Development will present for the first time in a public forum its full set of draft goals and policy recommendations for establishing a long-term path toward a sustainable United States by the year 2040. The Council will also present the latest draft of the challenge statement, identifying what types of practices the United States has employed that have taken us down an unsustainable path, the most recent version of the draft vision statement, and defining principles of sustainable development.

Date/Time: Wednesday, 28 June 1995—9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Place: U.S. Chamber of Commerce, 1615 H Street, NW., Washington, DC.

Status: Open to the Public/Public comments are welcome.

Contact: 202-408-5296.

Molly Harriss Olson,

Executive Director, President's Council on Sustainable Development.

[FR Doc. 95-14311 Filed 6-9-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-10-M