

Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230. Telephone: (703) 306-1910.

Purpose of Meeting: To provide advice and recommendations concerning proposals submitted to NSF for financial support.

Agenda: To review and evaluate SBIR Phase II Proposals as part of the selection process for awards.

Reason for Closing: The proposals being reviewed include information of a proprietary or confidential nature, including technical information; financial data, such as salaries; and personal information concerning individuals associated with the proposals. These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c), (4) and (6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act.

Dated: November 22, 1995.

M. Rebecca Winkler,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 95-28953 Filed 11-27-95; 8:45 am]

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Special Emphasis Panel in Physics; Notice of Meeting

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, as amended), the National Science Foundation announces the following meeting.

Name: Special Emphasis Panel in Physics (1208).

Date and Time: Wednesday, December 13 thru Saturday, December 16, 1995.

Place: Fermilab High Rise, Batavia, IL 60510.

Type of Meeting: Closed.

Contact Person: Dr. Marvin Goldberg, Program Director for Elementary Particle Physics, Division of Physics, Rm 1015, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230. Telephone: (703) 306-1894.

Purpose of meeting: To provide advice and recommendations concerning proposals submitted to NSF for financial support.

Agenda: To review and evaluate Elementary Particle Physics Career proposals as part of the selection process for awards.

Reason for Closing: The proposals being reviewed include information of a proprietary or confidential nature, including technical information; financial data, such as salaries; and personal information concerning individuals associated with the proposals. These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c), (4) and (6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act.

Dated: November 22, 1995.

M. Rebecca Winkler,

Committee Management Officer.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50-266 and 50-301]

Wisconsin Electric Power Company; Point Beach Nuclear Plant Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an exemption from certain technical requirements of Appendix E to 10 CFR Part 50 for operation of the Point Beach Nuclear Plant, Unit Nos. 1 and 2, located in Manitowoc County, Wisconsin (Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-24 and DPR-27, respectively, issued to Wisconsin Electric Power Company, the licensee).

Environmental Assessment

Identification of the Proposed Action

The proposed action would grant an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix E, Section IV.F.2., for annually exercising the onsite Emergency Plan at the Point Beach Nuclear Plant in the year 1995.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application for exemption dated October 6, 1995, as supplemented November 3, 1995.

The Need for the Proposed Action

The proposed action is needed to allow the licensee to begin loading dry cask storage containers in December 1995 in order to minimize the time that Point Beach will not have the capacity for a full-core offload. The licensee has stated that emergency response personnel who would be involved in the emergency exercise will be involved in oversight of the process for loading the dry cask storage containers. Therefore, the licensee anticipates the 1995 emergency exercise to have a negative impact on the oversight of the storage of spent fuel in the independent spent fuel storage installation at the Point Beach plant.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed action and concludes that the one-time action is acceptable because the licensee has demonstrated excellent performance in the emergency preparedness area during the last two Systematic Assessment of Licensee Performance (SALP) periods and has performed an emergency drill in August 1995 involving major elements of the Point Beach Emergency Plan with no significant deficiencies.

The change will not increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types of any effluents that may be released offsite, and there is no significant increase in the allowable individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed action does involve features located entirely within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. It does not affect nonradiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action

Since the Commission has concluded there is no measurable environmental impact associated with the proposed action, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impact need not be evaluated. As an alternative to the proposed action, the staff considered denial of the proposed action. Denial of the application 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 Statement for Point Beach.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

In accordance with its stated policy, on November 3, 1995, the staff consulted with the Wisconsin State official, Ms. Sarah Jenkins, of the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comments.

Finding of No Significant Impact

Based upon 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 letter dated October 6, 1995, as supplemented by letter dated November 3, 1995, 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 room located at the Joseph P. Mann Library, 1516 Sixteenth Street, Two Rivers, Wisconsin 54241.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 17th day of November 1995.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission,
Gail H. Marcus,

Director, Project Directorate III-3, Division of Reactor Projects—III/IV, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 95-28979 Filed 11-27-95; 8:45 am]

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[Docket Nos. 50-295 and 50-304]

In the Matter of: Commonwealth Edison Company (Zion Nuclear Power Station, Unit Nos. 1 and 2); Exemption

I.

Commonwealth Edison Company (ComEd or the licensee) is the holder of Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-39 and DPR-48, which authorize operation of the Zion Nuclear Power Station, Unit Nos. 1 and 2, at a steady-state reactor power level not in excess of 3250 megawatts thermal. The facilities are pressurized water reactors located at the licensee's site in Lake County, Illinois. The licenses provide, among other things, that the Zion Nuclear Power Station is subject to all rules, regulations, and Orders of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission or NRC) now or hereafter in effect.

II.

Sections III.B and III.D.2.(a) of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix J, Option A, require that Type B local leakage rate periodic tests shall be performed during reactor shutdown for refueling, or other convenient intervals, but in no case at intervals greater than 2 years. In addition, Sections III.C and III.D.3 of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix J, Option A, require that Type C local leakage rate periodic tests shall be performed during each reactor shutdown for refueling, but in no case at intervals greater than 2 years. These requirements are reflected in the Zion Technical Specifications (TS) as requirements to perform Type B and C containment leakage rate testing in accordance with 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix J and approved exemptions.

III.

The licensee has determined that certain containment isolation pathways have not been locally leakage rate tested (Type B and C tests) as required by 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix J, Option A.

There were 23 untested pathways in Unit 1 and 18 in Unit 2. In a letter dated August 16, 1995, the licensee requested relief from the requirement to perform the Type B and C containment leakage rate tests of certain penetrations and valves in these pathways in accordance with the requirements of Sections III.B, III.C and III.D of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix J, Option A. Continued operation of the Zion units was authorized by a Notice of Enforcement Discretion (NOED) orally granted on August 15, 1995, until such time as the staff acted on the exemption requests. The NOED was granted in writing on August 16, 1995.

If the exemptions the licensee requested in its letter dated August 16, 1995, are granted, the tests, except those for which permanent exemptions were requested, would be performed: (1) during the fall 1995 Unit 1 refueling outage, or (2) during power operation on Unit 2 prior to September 15, 1995, or (3) during the Unit 2 refueling outage in the fall of 1996.

Attachment 1A of the licensee's letter contained one-time schedular exemption requests and justifications for pathways that can be tested at power. Although the tests can be performed with the units at power, time was needed to properly develop and perform the necessary test procedures. Accordingly, the licensee requested that the Type B and C testing of the pathways associated with Zion, Unit 2, be deferred, with final test completion of the affected pathways (as listed in Attachment 1A) prior to September 15, 1995. The tests have been completed on Unit 2. In addition, the licensee requested that the affected penetrations associated with Zion, Unit 1, be deferred until the completion of its current refueling outage, which began on September 9, 1995.

Attachment 1B of the licensee's letter also contains one-time schedular exemption requests and justifications for pathways that can only be tested with the unit shutdown. The tests of the penetrations listed in Attachment 1B would be performed during the next cold shutdown of sufficient duration. In all cases, the testing would be performed prior to the end of the next refueling outage on each unit. The refueling outage is currently in progress for Unit 1 and is planned for the fall of 1996 for Unit 2.

Attachment 2 of the licensee's letter contains permanent exemption requests and justifications for pathways that cannot satisfy the requirements of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix J, Option A, due to system/penetration design; that is, a

test is not feasible, without making physical plant modifications.

Pathways Listed in Licensee's Attachment 1A

Attachment 1A of the licensee's letter requested temporary, schedular exemptions for components in the following containment penetrations:

Units 1 and 2:

P-14, Valve 1(2) RC8045, Nitrogen to the Pressurizer Relief Tank.

Unit 2 only:

P-30, Valve 2AOV-DT9159A, Reactor Coolant Drain Tank to Gas Analyzer.

For Unit 2, the required tests were completed prior to September 15, 1995.

For Unit 1, the required tests will be performed before startup from the current refueling outage. The Zion TSs do not require compliance with containment leakage rate limits during refueling outages, because there is little risk of an accident occurring which would release significant amounts of radioactivity. Therefore, the staff finds acceptable the schedular exemption request to delay the local leakage rate testing of valve 1 RC8045 until no later than startup from the current Unit 1 refueling outage.

Pathways Listed in Licensee's Attachment 1B

Attachment 1B of the licensee's letter requested temporary, schedular exemptions for components in the following containment penetrations:

Units 1 and 2:

P-60, Valve 1(2)AOV-RV0005,

Containment Vent Isolation

P-70, Valve 1(2)SF8767, Refuel Cavity to Purification Pump

P-80, ECCS Relief Valve Header to Pressurizer Relief Tank

P-99, Valve 1(2)SF8787, Purification Pump to Refuel Cavity

Unit 1 only:

P-30, Valve 1AOV-DT9159A, Reactor Coolant Drain Tank to Gas Analyzer

For Unit 1, the required tests will be performed before startup from the current refueling outage. The Zion TSs do not require compliance with containment leakage rate limits during refueling outages, because there is little risk of an accident occurring which would release significant amounts of radioactivity. Therefore, the staff finds acceptable the schedular exemption request to delay the local leakage rate testing of the Unit 1 components listed above until startup from the current Unit 1 refueling outage.

For Unit 2, the leakage pathways do not consist of through-valve leakage paths, but rather leakage paths out of