

Signed in Washington, DC this 28th day of January, 1999.

Eddie West,

Executive Director, National Skill Standards Board.

[FR Doc. 99-2626 Filed 2-3-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-23-M

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Request Comment

AGENCY: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

ACTION: Notice of pending NRC action to submit an information collection request to OMB and solicitation of public comment.

SUMMARY: The NRC is preparing a submittal to OMB for review of continued approval of information collections under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Information pertaining to the requirement to be submitted:

1. *The title of the information collection:* NRC Form 354, "Data Report on Spouse".

2. *Current OMB Approval Number:* 3150-0026.

3. *How often the collection is required:* On occasion.

4. *Who is required or asked to report:* NRC employees, contractors, licensees, applicants and others (e.g., interveners) who marry after completing NRC's Personnel Security Forms; or marry after having been granted an NRC access authorization or employment clearance.

5. *The number of annual respondents:* 60.

6. *The number of hours needed annually to complete the requirement or request:* 12 (.20 hours per response).

7. *Abstract:* Completion of the NRC Form 354 is a mandatory requirement for NRC employees, contractors, licensees, applicants and others who marry after submission of the Personnel Security Forms, or after receiving an access authorization or employment clearance, to permit the NRC to ensure there is no increased risk to the common defense and security.

Submit, by April 5, 1999, comments that address the following questions:

1. Is the proposed collection of information necessary for the NRC to properly perform its functions? Does the information have practical utility?

2. Is the burden estimate accurate?

3. Is there a way to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected?

4. How can the burden of the information collection be minimized, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology?

A copy of the draft supporting statement may be viewed free of charge at the NRC Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, NW (lower level), Washington, DC. OMB clearance requests are available at the NRC worldwide web site (<http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/PUBLIC/OMB/index.html>). The document will be available on the NRC home page site for 60 days after the signature date of this notice.

Comments and questions about the information collection requirements may be directed to the NRC Clearance Officer, Brenda Jo. Shelton, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, T-6 F33, Washington, DC 20555-0001, by telephone at 304-415-7233, or by Internet electronic mail at BJS1@NRC.GOV.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 29th day of January 1999.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Brenda Jo. Shelton,

NRC Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 99-2631 Filed 2-3-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-M

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

ACTION: Notice of the OMB review of information collection and solicitation of public comment.

SUMMARY: The NRC has recently submitted to OMB for review the following proposal for the collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). The NRC hereby informs potential respondents that an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and that a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

1. *Type of submission, new, revision, or extension:* NRC Form 741: Revision; NRC Form 740m: Extension.

2. *The title of the information collection:*

—DOE/NRC Forms 741 & 741A—
Nuclear Material Transaction Report;
—DOE/NRC Form 740M—Concise Note;

—NUREG/BR-0006—"Instructions for Completing Nuclear Material Transaction Reports and Concise Note, Forms 741, 741A, and 740M".

3. *How often the collection is required:*

—DOE/NRC Form 741/741A: As occasioned by special nuclear material or source material transfers, receipts, or inventory changes that meet certain criteria.
—DOE/NRC Form 740M: As necessary to inform the U. S. or the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) of any qualifying statement or exception to any of the data contained in any of the other reporting forms required under the US/IAEA Safeguards Agreement.

4. *Who will be required or asked to report:* Persons licensed to possess specified quantities of special nuclear material or source material, and licensees of facilities on the U. S. eligible list who have been notified in writing by the Commission that they are subject to 10 CFR Part 75.

5. *An estimate of the number of responses:*

—DOE/NRC Form 741/741A: 36,500
—DOE/NRC Form 740M: 1,140

6. *The estimated number of annual respondents:*

—DOE/NRC Form 741/741A: 1,200
—DOE/NRC Form 740M: 38

7. *An estimate of the total number of hours needed annually to complete the requirement or request:*

—DOE/NRC Form 741/741A: 27,375 for NRC and Agreement State licensees (.75 hour per response with an annual average of 22.8 hours per respondent for 1,200 respondents)
—DOE/NRC Form 740M: 855 for NRC and Agreement State licensees (.75 hour per response with an annual average of 22.5 hours per respondent for 38 respondents)

8. *An indication of whether Section 3507(d), Pub. L. 104-13 applies:* Not applicable.

9. *Abstract:* NRC and Agreement State licensees are required to make inventory and accounting reports on DOE/NRC Form 741/741A for certain source or special nuclear material inventory changes, for transfers or receipts of special nuclear material, or for transfer or receipt of 1 kilogram or more of source material. Licensees affected by 10 CFR Part 75 and related sections of Parts 40, 50, 70, and 150 are required to submit DOE/NRC Form 740M to inform the U. S. or the IAEA of any qualifying statement or exception to any of the data contained in any of the other reporting forms required under the U.S./IAEA Safeguards Agreement. The use of

Forms 740M, 741, and 741A, together with NUREG/BR-0006, the instructions for completing the forms, enables NRC to collect, retrieve, analyze as necessary, and submit the data to IAEA to fulfill its reporting responsibilities.

A copy of the final supporting statement may be viewed free of charge at the NRC Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, NW (lower level), Washington, DC. OMB clearance requests are available at the NRC worldwide web site (<http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/PUBLIC/OMB/index.html>). The document will be available on the NRC home page site for 60 days after the signature date of this notice.

Comments and questions should be directed to the OMB reviewer listed below by March 8, 1999. Comments received after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but assurance of consideration cannot be given to comments received after this date.

Erik Godwin, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (3150-0135), NEOB-10202, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

Comments can also be submitted by telephone at (202) 395-3084.

The NRC Clearance Officer is Brenda Jo. Shelton, 301-415-7233.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 29th day of January 1999.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Brenda Jo. Shelton,

NRC Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 99-2630 Filed 2-3-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 70-143]

Consideration of License Renewal Request for Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc.

AGENCY: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Finding of no significant impact for the renewal of license for Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc. Facility in Erwin, Tennessee.

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission is considering the renewal of Special Nuclear Material License SNM-124 to authorize processing of highly enriched uranium (HEU) into a classified fuel product for the U.S. Naval Reactor Program, processing of HEU scrap to recover uranium, and various decommissioning activities at the Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc. (NFS) facility located in Erwin, Tennessee.

Summary of the Environmental Assessment

Identification of the Proposed Action

The proposed action is to renew License No. SNM-124, so as to continue operations and to perform certain decommissioning activities at the NFS Erwin Plant. The principal operations expected during the renewal period include the processing of HEU into a classified fuel product and processing HEU scrap to recover uranium, as well as support operations. The principal decommissioning activities expected during the renewal period include excavation, sampling, segregation, packaging, and offsite disposal of radioactive materials from two burial areas, the North Site Radiological Burial Ground and the Southwest Burial Trenches.

Impacts from final decommissioning of the North Site to meet unrestricted release criteria are also included in the Environmental Assessment (EA). The North Site refers to all NFS property north of the manufacturing facilities and covers approximately 10 hectares (24 acres). However, NRC approval of these activities will be considered as a separate licensing action.

In addition to the Proposed Alternative, a No-action Alternative was also assessed. Under this alternative, HEU production and scrap recovery operations would not be authorized. Instead, the license for the NFS plant would be renewed to only allow ongoing decommissioning activities. Eventually NFS would be required to initiate final decommissioning of the entire site. These decommissioning operations would be conducted in accordance with an approved decommissioning plan prepared by NFS after a thorough site survey. The NRC would assess the environmental impacts of site-wide decommissioning activities during review of this plan.

Need for the Proposed Action

The NFS Erwin Plant provides unique fuel material fabrication and uranium recovery services for the United States. NFS is the sole fabricator of classified fuel material for the United States Naval Reactor Program and is also involved in U.S. Department of Energy uranium recovery projects.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

Normal Operations

Normal operations will involve discharges to the atmosphere and to surface water. Radionuclides that may be released include isotopes of the

actinide elements uranium, thorium, plutonium, and americium and lesser amounts of fission products, including technetium. Sources of releases to the atmosphere are the main plant stack, secondary stacks in process buildings, and fugitive dust emissions from decommissioning/remediation activities. Sources of releases to surface water include the waste water treatment system, the secondary cooling system, and the sanitary sewer system.

A dose assessment was performed to estimate the impact from radiological releases to the air. Atmospheric release exposure pathways included inhalation, ingestion of contaminated crops and resuspended dirt, and external exposure to the airborne plume and contaminated ground. For these atmospheric releases, the largest tissue dose is to the lung from inhalation of ^{234}U , with minor contribution from the crop ingestion and external-exposure pathways. For the maximally exposed individual, the committed effective dose equivalent (CEDE) for combined releases from production operations and decommissioning/remediation activities was estimated as 2.7×10^{-5} Sv/yr (2.7 mrem/yr). Doses from remediation activities are about an order of magnitude less than doses from production activities.

A dose assessment was also performed to estimate the impact from radiological releases to surface water. Liquid effluents are released directly or indirectly into the Nolichucky River. Small creeks receiving portions of the liquid discharge, Banner Spring Branch and Martin Creek, are not used as a drinking water supply for area residents. The analysis assumes that an individual along the Nolichucky River and the surrounding population out to a distance of 80 kilometers (50 miles) use this potentially contaminated water. Liquid-release exposure pathways included ingestion of drinking water, fish, and irrigated crops and external exposure during recreational activities. The largest tissue doses are to the bone surface from ingestion of thorium-232, and external doses are a factor of 2500 smaller than internal doses. Fish, crop, and drinking-water consumption account for 49, 37, and 14 percent of the dose, respectively. The CEDE for the maximally exposed individual was estimated as 9.7×10^{-7} Sv/yr (0.10 mrem/yr).

Under the proposed action, about 2874 shipments of contaminated soil would be transported offsite to the Envirocare disposal facility in Utah. The reference value used for estimating radiological exposure to the public from transporting contaminated soil from a