

Proposed Rules

Federal Register

Vol. 75, No. 62

Thursday, April 1, 2010

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains notices to the public of the proposed issuance of rules and regulations. The purpose of these notices is to give interested persons an opportunity to participate in the rule making prior to the adoption of the final rules.

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

10 CFR Part 51

[Docket No. PRM-51-13; NRC-2010-0088]

Dan Kane; Receipt of Petition for Rulemaking

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Petition for rulemaking; notice of receipt.

SUMMARY: The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has received and requests public comment on a petition for rulemaking dated February 2, 2010, filed by Dan Kane (petitioner). The petition was docketed by the NRC and has been assigned Docket No. PRM-51-13. The petitioner is requesting that the NRC amend the regulations that govern environmental protection for domestic licensing and related regulatory functions. Specifically, the petitioner requests that the provisions that govern temporary storage of spent fuel after cessation of reactor operation be revoked, that licensing of new nuclear power plants cease, and that existing operating nuclear power plants be phased out. The petitioner believes these suggestions are necessary until the NRC can be assured of the technical and economic certainties of a waste disposition decision and associated political certainties in light of the current administration's proposed defunding of the Yucca Mountain Repository for permanent disposal and storage of spent nuclear fuel.

DATES: Submit comments by June 15, 2010. Comments received after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but assurance of consideration cannot be given except as to comments received on or before this date.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments on this petition by any one of the following methods. Please include PRM-51-13 in the subject line of your comments. Comments on petitions submitted in writing or in electronic

form will be made available for public inspection. Personal information, such as your name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, etc., will not be removed from your submission.

The NRC requests that any party soliciting or aggregating comments received from other persons for submission to the NRC inform those persons that the NRC will not edit their comments to remove any identifying or contact information, and therefore, they should not include any information in their comments that they do not want publicly disclosed.

Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and search for documents filed under Docket ID [NRC-2010-0088]. Address questions about NRC dockets to Carol Gallagher, 301-492-3668; e-mail Carol.Gallagher@nrc.gov.

Mail comments to: Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, ATTN: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff.

E-mail comments to: rulemaking.comments@nrc.gov. If you do not receive a reply e-mail confirming that we have received your comments, contact us directly at 301-415-1677.

Hand deliver comments to: 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852, between 7:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. Federal workdays, telephone number 301-415-1677.

Fax comments to: Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission at 301-415-1101.

Publicly available documents related to this petition may be viewed electronically on the public computers located at the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR), Room O1 F21, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland. The PDR reproduction contractor will copy documents for a fee. Selected documents, including comments, may be viewed and downloaded electronically via the Federal eRulemaking Portal <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Publicly available documents created or received at the NRC, are available electronically at the NRC's Electronic Reading Room at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. From this page, the public can gain entry into the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), which provides text and image files of NRC's

public documents. If you do not have access to ADAMS or if there are problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, contact the NRC PDR Reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737 or by e-mail to pdr.resource@nrc.gov.

For a copy of the petition, write to Michael T. Lesar, Chief, Rulemaking and Directives Branch, Division of Administrative Services, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001. The petition is also available electronically in ADAMS at ML100570095.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael T. Lesar, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555. Telephone: 301-492-3663 or Toll-Free: 1-800-368-5642 or E-mail: Michael.Lesar@NRC.Gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The NRC has received a petition for rulemaking dated February 2, 2010, submitted by Mr. Dan Kane (petitioner). The petitioner is a registered professional engineer who states that he has designed safety systems for commercial nuclear power plants and prepared some sections of the license application for Yucca Mountain. The petitioner requests that the NRC amend 10 CFR part 51, "Environmental Protection Regulations for Domestic Licensing and Related Regulatory Functions." Specifically, the petitioner requests that the regulations at § 51.23, "Temporary storage of spent fuel after cessation of reactor operation—generic determination of no significant environmental impact" be revoked. The NRC has determined that the petition meets the threshold sufficiency requirements for a petition for rulemaking under 10 CFR 2.802. The petition was docketed by the NRC as PRM-51-13 on February 25, 2010. The NRC is soliciting public comment on the petition for rulemaking.

Discussion of the Petition

The petitioner notes that on September 15, 2008 (73 FR 53284), the NRC accepted an application for construction of a mined geologic repository for spent nuclear fuel (Yucca Mountain) from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) for docketing and began a

technical review of the application. The petitioner also notes that on February 1, 2010, the current administration proposed that the funding for the Yucca Mountain repository be discontinued for what the petitioner believes are political reasons. The petitioner states that the proposed update of the NRC's Waste Confidence Decision and proposed rule that the NRC published on October 9, 2008 (73 FR 59547), specifically Finding 2 (73 FR 59561), indicates that the NRC found reasonable assurance that a mined geologic repository for permanent disposal of spent nuclear fuel would be available within 50–60 years beyond the licensed life for operation (which may include the term of a revised or renewed license) of any reactor.

The petitioner also states that the DOE Director of the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management expressed concern about adequate funding of the Yucca Mountain repository when DOE informed Congress that Yucca Mountain could be ready to accept spent nuclear fuel in 2020. The petitioner notes that the NRC denied a 2005 petition for rulemaking (PRM–51–8) by declining to define “availability” of a repository based on a presumption that an acceptable disposal site for spent nuclear fuel would become available “at some undefined time in the future.” (73 FR 59561.) The petitioner cites, *Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) v. NRC*, 574 F.2d 633 (DC Cir. 1976), as determining that the NRC's waste confidence decision must demonstrate compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA), by assuring that “safe and adequate storage methods [for spent nuclear fuel] are technologically and economically feasible.” However, the petitioner states that the NRDC decision did not anticipate the “current political reality.”

The petitioner has concluded that the current administration's proposed decision to no longer fund Yucca Mountain now places the possibility of construction and licensing of a permanent repository for spent nuclear fuel from U.S. nuclear power facilities and licensees in jeopardy. The petitioner requests that the NRC cease licensing new nuclear power plants and begin to orderly phase out existing operating nuclear power plants. The petitioner also requests that § 51.23, “Temporary storage of spent fuel after cessation of reactor operation—generic determination of no significant environmental impact,” be revoked. The petitioner has concluded that the NRC cannot rely on existing regulations to make a determination on issuance of a

construction authorization or license for a mined geologic repository at a location that has not been identified at an undetermined future time. The petitioner has also concluded that the NRC needs to strengthen the current regulations by adding additional requirements that address the political considerations of siting a mined geologic repository.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, March 25, 2010.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Annette L. Vietti-Cook,
Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2010–7405 Filed 3–31–10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA–2009–0606; Directorate Identifier 2009–NE–11–AD]

RIN 2120–AA64

Airworthiness Directives; CFM International, S.A. Models CFM56–3 and –3B Turbofan Engines

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Supplemental notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM); reopening of comment period.

SUMMARY: This supplemental NPRM revises an earlier proposed airworthiness directive (AD), for certain CFM International, S.A. models CFM56–3 and –3B turbofan engines. That proposed AD would have required initial and repetitive inspections for damage to the fan blades. That proposed AD resulted from a report of a failed fan blade with severe out-of-limit wear on the underside of the blade platform where it contacts the damper. This supplemental NPRM revises the proposed AD to reduce the initial inspection compliance threshold, to correct the engine model designations affected, and to clarify some of the inspection wording in the compliance section. This supplemental NPRM results from a report of a failed fan blade with severe out-of-limit wear on the underside of the blade platform where it contacts the damper. We are proposing this supplemental NPRM to prevent failure of multiple fan blades, which could result in an uncontained failure of the engine and damage to the airplane.

DATES: We must receive any comments on this supplemental NPRM by May 17, 2010.

ADDRESSES: Use one of the following addresses to comment on this proposed AD.

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and follow the instructions for sending your comments electronically.

- *Mail:* Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001.

- *Hand Delivery:* Deliver to Mail address above between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

- *Fax:* (202) 493–2251.

You can get the service information identified in this proposed AD from CFM International, S. A., Technical Publication Department, 1 Neumann Way, Cincinnati, OH 45215; telephone (513) 552–2800; fax (513) 552–2816.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Antonio Cancelliere, Aerospace Engineer, Engine Certification Office, FAA, Engine & Propeller Directorate, 12 New England Executive Park, Burlington, MA 01803; e-mail: antonio.cancelliere@faa.gov; telephone (781) 238–7751; fax (781) 238–7199.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments Invited

We invite you to send us any written relevant data, views, or arguments regarding this proposal. Send your comments to an address listed under **ADDRESSES**. Include “Docket No. FAA–2009–0606; Directorate Identifier 2009–NE–11–AD” in the subject line of your comments. We specifically invite comments on the overall regulatory, economic, environmental, and energy aspects of the proposed AD. We will consider all comments received by the closing date and may amend the proposed AD in light of those comments.

We will post all comments we receive, without change, to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information you provide. We will also post a report summarizing each substantive verbal contact with FAA personnel concerning this proposed AD. Using the search function of the Web site, anyone can find and read the comments in any of our dockets, including, if provided, the name of the individual who sent the comment (or signed the comment on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review the DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal**