

performance of the functions of the NSF, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the NSF's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, use, and clarity of the information on respondents; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology should be addressed to the points of contact in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

Copies of the submission may be obtained by calling 703-292-7556. NSF may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number, and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Title of Collection: The Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee Principles for Conducting Research in the Arctic Evaluation Survey.

OMB Control No.: 3145-New.

Abstract: The Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee (IARPC) was established by the Arctic Research and Policy Act of 1984 (ARPA) to facilitate coordination and cooperation in Arctic research. Now a subcommittee of the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC), IARPC plays a critical role in enhancing scientific monitoring and advancing Arctic research through the coordination of Federal agencies as well as domestic and international collaborators. In 2018, IARPC released the revised Principles for Conducting Research in the Arctic OPP Principles for the Conduct of Research in the Arctic | NSF—National Science Foundation (<https://www.nsf.gov/geo/opp/arctic/conduct.jsp>) to guide research activities throughout the Arctic. In 2023, the IARPC's Participatory Research and Indigenous Leadership in Research (PILR) Collaboration Team (one of five foundational activities in the Arctic Research Plan—IARPC Collaborations) (<https://www.iarpcollaborations.org/plan/index.html>) reframed these principles as SHARE:

- Sustain and build relationships
- Humble accountability
- Advance responsible environmental stewardship

- Effective communication

These Principles are directed at academic and federal researchers funded by IARPC agencies but are equally relevant to other individuals and organizations pursuing or funding research in the Arctic. They are guidelines for conducting responsible and ethical research and they encourage respect for all individuals, cultures, and the environment. The Principles are not intended to supplant existing regulations and guidelines; researchers should follow federal, state, and local regulations, policies and guidelines. Research involving human subjects must adhere to specific requirements. Projects on Indigenous homelands or involving Indigenous Peoples should be coordinated with Indigenous leadership and should follow all applicable regulations and local research guidelines.

The rapid changes occurring in the Arctic are complex, dynamic, and interconnected. Climate change and other environmental changes are profoundly impacting Arctic communities and have global consequences. As a result, emerging research questions are multidisciplinary and are best addressed by multiple Federal agencies working closely with non-Federal partners. Through a targeted approach to cross-cutting priority areas, the Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee's (IARPC) Arctic Research Plan 2022–2026 addresses the most pressing Arctic research needs that require a collaborative approach and can advance understanding of the Arctic and climate change, inform policy and planning decisions, and promote the well-being of Arctic and global communities. The plan's priority areas respond to challenges identified by Arctic communities, Federal agencies with a presence in Alaska or a responsibility to understand the Arctic region, Federal agencies with Arctic investments, the state of Alaska, Tribal and Indigenous organizations, and other non-Federal entities.

Every five years, IARPC is required by law (ARPA) “to prepare and execute an Arctic Research Plan in coordination with the U.S. Arctic Research Commission, the Governor of the State of Alaska, residents of the Arctic, the private sector, and public interest groups.” The Arctic Research Plan 2022–2026 is the third plan since IARPC became a subcommittee of the NSTC and builds from the successes and communities of practice established by previous plans. It seeks to integrate these communities and create cross-

cutting foci which require a focused research effort.

The IARPC PILR Collaboration work focuses on three objectives including PILR 1 to fulfill Federal requirement to consult with Federally recognized Tribes and Alaska Native Corporations. The IARPC Principles survey stems from PILR Deliverable 1.2 to Evaluate the Principles for Conducting Research in the Arctic 2018, and update as needed based on the evaluation. This survey will enable an evaluation of understanding and implementation of the SHARE Principles among three primary groups, Arctic Indigenous and local community members and leadership, the scientific research community, and federal agency personnel.

Respondents: Arctic Indigenous and local community members and leadership (100); scientific research community (100), and federal agency personnel (100).

Estimated Number of Annual Respondents: 300.

Burden on the Public: Estimated 20 minutes to fill out the form. The estimated burden time is 102 hours.

Dated: September 20, 2024.

Suzanne H. Plimpton,

Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.

[FR Doc. 2024-21973 Filed 9-24-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50-334, 50-412; 50-346, and 50-440; NRC-2024-0127]

Vistra Operations Company, LLC; Beaver Valley Power Station, Units 1 and 2; Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station, Unit 1; Perry Nuclear Power Plant, Unit 1; Exemption

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice; issuance.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is granting an exemption in response to a request dated February 23, 2024, as supplemented on August 15, 2024, seeking an exemption from specific regulations that require periodic updates to the Updated Final Safety Analysis Reports (UFSARs) for the Beaver Valley Power Station (BVPS), Units 1 and 2, Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station, (DBNPS) Unit 1, and Perry Nuclear Power Plant (PNPP), Unit 1. The initial request was submitted by Energy Harbor Nuclear Corp. Effective

March 1, 2024, the facility operating licenses for BVPS, Units 1 and 2, DBNPS, Unit 1, and PNPP, Unit 1, were transferred from Energy Harbor Nuclear Corp. (operator) to Vistra Operations Company, LLC (operator). The ownership of these units by Energy Harbor Nuclear Generation, LLC was not affected by the transfer. Upon completion of this license transfer, Vistra Operations Company, LLC assumed the responsibility for all licensing actions under NRC review at the time of the transfer and requested that the NRC continue its review of these actions.

DATES: The exemption was issued on September 17, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Please refer to Docket ID NRC-2024-0127 when contacting the NRC about the availability of information regarding this document. You may obtain publicly available information related to this document using any of the following methods:

- *Federal Rulemaking Website:* Go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID NRC-2024-0127. Address questions about Docket IDs in *Regulations.gov* to Stacy Schumann; telephone: 301-415-0624; email: Stacy.Schumann@nrc.gov. For technical questions, contact the individual listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**

CONTACT section of this document.

- *NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS):* You may obtain publicly available documents online in the ADAMS Public Documents collection at <https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To begin the search, select "Begin Web-based ADAMS Search." For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, at 301-415-4737, or by email to PDR.Resource@nrc.gov. The ADAMS accession number for each document referenced (if it is available in ADAMS) is provided the first time that it is mentioned in this document.

- *NRC's PDR:* The PDR, where you may examine and order copies of publicly available documents, is open by appointments. To make an appointment to visit the PDR, please send an email to PDR.Resource@nrc.gov or call 1-800-397-4209 or 301-415-4737, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. (ET), Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert Kuntz, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001; telephone: 301-415-3733, email: Robert.Kuntz@nrc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The text of the exemption is attached.

Dated: September 19, 2024.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Robert F. Kuntz,

Senior Project Manager, Plant Licensing Branch 3, Division of Operating Reactor Licensing, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

Attachment—Exemption

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50-334, 50-412, 50-346, and 50-440]

Vistra Operations Company, LLC; Beaver Valley Power Station, Units 1 and 2, Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station, Unit 1, Perry Nuclear Power Plant, Unit 1; Exemptions

I. Background

Vistra Operations Company, LLC (VistraOps, the licensee) is the holder of Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-66, NPF-73, NPF-3, and NPF-58, for Beaver Valley Power Station (BVPS), Units 1 and 2; Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station (DBNPS) Unit 1; and Perry Nuclear Power Plant (PNPP) Unit 1, respectively. The licenses provide, among other things, that the licensee is subject to all rules, regulations, and orders of the Commission now or hereafter in effect. The BVPS, Units 1 and 2; and DBNPS, Unit 1, facilities consist of pressurized-water reactors (PWRs) located along the Ohio River in Beaver Valley, PA and in Ottawa County, OH, respectfully. The PNPP, Unit 1, is a boiling-water reactor (BWR) located near Lake Erie in Lake County, Ohio.

II. Request/Action

Section 50.71 of title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR), "Maintenance of records, making of reports," paragraph (e)(4) states, in part, "Subsequent revisions [to the Updated Final Safety Analysis Report (UFSAR) submitted as part of the original license application] must be filed annually or 6 months after each refueling outage provided the interval between successive updates [to the UFSAR] does not exceed 24 months."

By letter dated February 23, 2024 (ADAMS Accession No. ML24054A101), Energy Harbor Corporation requested that the due date for submittal of the BVPS, Unit 1, UFSAR be by May 31 of every even-numbered year, provided the interval between successive updates does not exceed 24 months. Similarly, for BVPS, Unit 2, the UFSAR update would be due by May 31 of every odd-numbered year; for PNPP, Unit 1, the

UFSAR update would be due by September 30 of every odd-numbered year; and for DBNPS, Unit 1, the UFSAR update would be due by September 30 of every even-numbered year, provided the interval between successive updates does not exceed 24 months for each unit. This proposal differs from the requirements these units are currently subject to. As explained in the request for exemptions:

Currently, BVPS, Units 1 and 2 are on 18-month staggered refueling cycles while PNPP and DBNPS are on 24-month refueling cycles. Based on the applicable refueling cycle, PNPP and DBNPS perform UFSAR updates approximately every 24 months while BVPS Units 1 and 2 perform updates approximately every 18 months. The exemption will provide for a set calendar schedule for each of the Energy Harbor Nuclear Corp. plants, which would allow more efficient scheduling and allocation of resources to prepare and submit UFSAR updates while remaining within the maximum allowed 24 months between successive updates.

Effective March 1, 2024 (ML24057A092), the facility operating licenses for BVPS, Units 1 and 2, DBNPS, Unit 1, and PNPP, Unit 1, were transferred from Energy Harbor Nuclear Corp. (operator) to Vistra Operations Company LLC (operator). The ownership of these units by Energy Harbor Nuclear Generation LLC was not affected by the transfer. Upon completion of this license transfer, VistraOps assumed the responsibility for all licensing actions under NRC review at the time of the transfer and requested that the NRC continue its review of these actions (ML24054A498). VistraOps submitted a supplement to the exemption requests on August 15, 2024 (ML24228A213).

III. Discussion

Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.12, the NRC may, upon application by any interested person or upon its own initiative, grant exemptions from the requirements of 10 CFR, part 50, including 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4) when: (1) the exemptions are authorized by law, will not present an undue risk to the public health or safety, and are consistent with the common defense and security; and (2) special circumstances are present. Under 10 CFR 50.12(a)(2), special circumstances include, among other things, when application of the specific regulation in the particular circumstances would not serve, or is not necessary to achieve, the underlying purpose of the rule.

A. The Exemptions Are Authorized by Law

In accordance with 10 CFR 50.12, the NRC may grant an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR part 50 if the

exemption is authorized by law. The proposed exemptions are authorized by law as no other prohibition of law exists that would preclude the activities that would be authorized by the exemptions. The NRC staff has determined that granting the licensee's proposed exemptions will not result in a violation of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, or the Commission's regulations. Therefore, the exemptions are authorized by law.

B. The Exemptions Present No Undue Risk to Public Health and Safety

The proposed exemptions will not alter the manner in which changes to the UFSAR are evaluated in that changes to the UFSAR will continue to be reviewed through the existing applicable administrative and programmatic control processes to ensure that UFSAR changes are properly evaluated and implemented.

Licensees are required, in accordance with 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4), to periodically submit their UFSARs and modifying the schedule for periodic submittal does not alter plant design or operation. Therefore, the exemptions do not present an undue risk to the public health and safety.

C. The Exemptions Are Consistent With the Common Defense and Security

The proposed exemptions have no impact on the BVPS, Units 1 and 2, DBNPS, and PNPP physical security plan or the ability to protect special nuclear material at BVPS, Units 1 and 2, DBNPS, and PNPP. Therefore, the exemptions are consistent with the common defense and security.

D. Special Circumstances

In accordance with 10 CFR 50.12(a)(2)(ii), special circumstances exist when compliance is not necessary to achieve the underlying purpose of the rule. The underlying purpose of 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4) is to ensure that licensees periodically submit their UFSARs to assure that the UFSAR remains up to date while reflecting the plant design and operation. Specifically, when the requirement to provide an UFSAR update was first promulgated (May 9, 1980; 45 FR 30614), the Commission explained that it was establishing the requirement "to provide an updated reference document to be used in recurring safety analyses performed by the licensee, the Commission, and other interested parties." That rule required updating on an annual basis. In a 1992 final rule that had the purpose of reducing regulatory burden on licensees (August 31, 1992; 57 FR 39353), the Commission provided an alternative to

annual updating, in which licensees could provide updates "6 months after each refueling outage provided the interval between successive updates to the FSAR does not exceed 24 months." In a response to a comment suggesting that the FSAR update be decoupled from the refueling cycle, the Commission explained in the final rule (57 FR 39354), "The majority of facility design changes reflected in an updated FSAR are effected during the refueling outage. The use of the refueling cycle interval provides for a current plant status document that is coordinated with plant changes."

As required by 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4) a maximum time of 24 months between successive updates and the requirement to reflect changes to the UFSAR up to a maximum of 6 months prior to the date of filing is allowed. The processing and submittal of more frequent revisions to the UFSAR, including all documents incorporated by reference, is not necessary to achieve the underlying purpose of the rule. The BVPS, Units 1 and 2, DBNPS, and PNPP routine UFSAR submittals will not exceed the maximum 24 months between submission. Further, as noted in the licensee's submittal dated August 15, 2024, the majority of facility design changes reflected in the UFSAR for the affected reactors are no longer effected during the refueling outage. Therefore, the submittals will continue to contain timely updates to the NRC as required by 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4). Furthermore, tying the processing and submittal of the UFSAR to the refueling cycle is not necessary to achieve the underlying purpose of the rule as the majority of the facility design changes are not implemented during refueling outages and therefore tying the UFSAR submittal to the refueling cycle is not necessary to provide a current plant status document coordinated with plant changes. Therefore, special circumstances exist under 10 CFR 50.12(a)(2)(ii) in that application of the requirements in these particular circumstances are not necessary to achieve the underlying purpose of the rule.

E. Environmental Considerations

With respect to the impact of the exemptions on the quality of the human environment, the NRC has determined that the issuance of the exemptions discussed herein meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement, set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(25).

Under 10 CFR 51.22(c)(25), the granting of an exemption from the requirements of any regulation of 10 CFR chapter I (which includes 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4)) is an action that is a categorical exclusion, provided that certain specified criteria are met. The basis for NRC's determination is provided in the following evaluation of the requirements in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(25)(i)–(vi).

Requirements in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(25)(i)

To qualify for a categorical exclusion under 10 CFR 51.22(c)(25)(i), the exemption must involve no significant hazards consideration. The criteria for determining whether an action involves a significant hazards consideration are found in 10 CFR 50.92. The proposed action involves only a schedule change regarding the submission of an update to the UFSAR. As set forth in that regulation, there are no significant hazard considerations because granting the exemptions would not: (1) involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated; or (2) create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated; or (3) involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety.

Requirements in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(25)(ii)

The exemption satisfies the criterion in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(25)(ii) that there is no significant change in the types or significant increase in the amounts of any effluents that may be released offsite. The proposed action involves only a schedule change, which is administrative in nature, and does not involve any changes in the types or increase in the amounts of any effluents that may be released offsite.

Requirements in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(25)(iii)

The exemption satisfies the criterion in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(25)(iii) that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative public or occupational radiation exposure. Since the proposed action involves only a schedule change, which is administrative in nature, it does not contribute to any significant increase in individual or cumulative public or occupational radiation exposures.

Requirements in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(25)(iv)

The exemption satisfies the criterion in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(25)(iv) that there is no significant construction impact. Since the proposed action involves only a schedule change related to the timing for submittal of UFSAR updates, which is administrative in nature, it does not involve any construction impact.

Requirements in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(25)(v)

The exemption satisfies the criterion in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(25)(v) that there is no significant increase in the potential for or consequences from radiological accidents. The proposed action involves only a schedule change related to the timing for submittal of UFSAR updates, which is administrative in nature and does not impact the potential for or consequences from radiological accidents.

Requirements in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(25)(vi)

The exemption satisfies the criterion in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(25)(vi)(B) and 51.22(c)(25)(vi)(G) because the requirements from which the exemption is sought involve reporting and scheduling requirements, specifically the required schedule for submittal of UFSAR updates to the NRC pursuant to 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4).

Based on the above, the NRC staff concludes that the proposed exemptions meet the eligibility criteria for the categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(25). Therefore, in accordance with 10 CFR 51.22(b), no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the NRC's issuance of these exemptions.

IV. Conclusions

Accordingly, the Commission has determined that, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.12, the exemptions are authorized by law, will not present an undue risk to the public health and safety, and is consistent with the common defense and security. Also, special circumstances, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.12(a)(2)(ii) are present. Therefore, the Commission hereby grants VistraOps the following exemptions from the requirements of 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4) to allow VistraOps to file its periodic updates: to the BVPS, Unit 1, UFSAR by May 31 of every even-numbered year, to the BVPS, Unit 2, UFSAR by May 31 of every odd-numbered year, to the PNPP, Unit 1, UFSAR by September 30 of every odd-numbered year, and to the DBNPS, Unit 1, UFSAR by September 30 of every even-numbered year, provided the interval between successive updates does not exceed 24 months for each unit.

The exemptions are effective upon issuance.

Dated: September 17, 2024.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
/RA/
Bo Pham,

Director, Division of Operating Reactor
Licensing, Office of Nuclear Reactor
Regulation.

[FR Doc. 2024-21856 Filed 9-24-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. MC2024-691 and CP2024-700; MC2024-692 and CP2024-701; MC2024-693 and CP2024-702; MC2024-694 and CP2024-703; MC2024-695 and CP2024-704; MC2024-696 and CP2024-705; MC2024-697 and CP2024-706; MC2024-698 and CP2024-707; MC2024-699 and CP2024-708; MC2024-700 and CP2024-709]

New Postal Products

AGENCY: Postal Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commission is noticing a recent Postal Service filing for the Commission's consideration concerning a negotiated service agreement. This notice informs the public of the filing, invites public comment, and takes other administrative steps.

DATES: *Comments are due:* September 25, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments electronically via the Commission's Filing Online system at <http://www.prc.gov>. Those who cannot submit comments electronically should contact the person identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section by telephone for advice on filing alternatives.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David A. Trissell, General Counsel, at 202-789-6820.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Table of Contents

- I. Introduction
- II. Docketed Proceeding(s)

I. Introduction

The Commission gives notice that the Postal Service filed request(s) for the Commission to consider matters related to negotiated service agreement(s). The request(s) may propose the addition or removal of a negotiated service agreement from the Market Dominant or the Competitive product list, or the modification of an existing product currently appearing on the Market Dominant or the Competitive product list.

Section II identifies the docket number(s) associated with each Postal Service request, the title of each Postal Service request, the request's acceptance date, and the authority cited by the Postal Service for each request. For each request, the Commission appoints an

officer of the Commission to represent the interests of the general public in the proceeding, pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505 (Public Representative). Section II also establishes comment deadline(s) pertaining to each request.

The public portions of the Postal Service's request(s) can be accessed via the Commission's website (<http://www.prc.gov>). Non-public portions of the Postal Service's request(s), if any, can be accessed through compliance with the requirements of 39 CFR 3011.301.¹

The Commission invites comments on whether the Postal Service's request(s) in the captioned docket(s) are consistent with the policies of title 39. For request(s) that the Postal Service states concern Market Dominant product(s), applicable statutory and regulatory requirements include 39 U.S.C. 3622, 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR part 3030, and 39 CFR part 3040, subpart B. For request(s) that the Postal Service states concern Competitive product(s), applicable statutory and regulatory requirements include 39 U.S.C. 3632, 39 U.S.C. 3633, 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR part 3035, and 39 CFR part 3040, subpart B. Comment deadline(s) for each request appear in section II.

II. Docketed Proceeding(s)

1. *Docket No(s).*: MC2024-691 and CP2024-700; *Filing Title:* USPS Request to Add Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage Contract 345 to Competitive Product List and Notice of Filing Materials Under Seal; *Filing Acceptance Date:* September 17, 2024; *Filing Authority:* 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR 3040.130 through 3040.135, and 39 CFR 3035.105; *Public Representative:* Alain Brou; *Comments Due:* September 25, 2024.

2. *Docket No(s).*: MC2024-692 and CP2024-701; *Filing Title:* USPS Request to Add Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage Contract 346 to Competitive Product List and Notice of Filing Materials Under Seal; *Filing Acceptance Date:* September 17, 2024; *Filing Authority:* 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR 3040.130 through 3040.135, and 39 CFR 3035.105; *Public Representative:* Alain Brou; *Comments Due:* September 25, 2024.

3. *Docket No(s).*: MC2024-693 and CP2024-702; *Filing Title:* USPS Request to Add Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage Contract 347 to Competitive Product List and Notice of Filing Materials

¹ See Docket No. RM2018-3, Order Adopting Final Rules Relating to Non-Public Information, June 27, 2018, Attachment A at 19-22 (Order No. 4679).