

Steven D. Emslie; Permit No. 2006–001.

Nadene G. Kennedy,
Permit Officer.

[FR Doc. 05–11387 Filed 6–7–05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–M

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Notice of Permits Issued Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Notice of permits issued under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978, Public Law 95–541.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish notice of permits issued under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978. This is the required notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nadene G. Kennedy, Permit Office, Office of Polar Programs, Rm. 755, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On April 5, 2005, the National Science Foundation published a notice in the *Federal Register* of a permit applications received. Permits were issued on May 17, 2005, to:

Tom Yelvington; Permit No. 2006–003.

Natalie Goodall; Permit No. 2006–005.

Tom Yelvington; Permit No. 2006–006.

Tom Yelvington; Permit No. 2006–007.

Tom Yelvington; Permit No. 2006–008.

Nadene G. Kennedy,
Permit Officer

[FR Doc. 05–11388 Filed 6–7–05; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No 72–13]

Entergy Operations, Incorporated; Notice of Docketing of Request for Exemption for Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 1 and Unit 2

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of request for exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 72.212(a)(2) and 10 CFR 72.214.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Christopher M. Regan, Senior Project Manager, Spent Fuel Project Office,

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555. Telephone: (301) 415–1179; fax number: (301) 415–1179; e-mail: cmr1@nrc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Introduction

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or Commission) is considering a request dated May 23, 2005, from Entergy Operations, Inc. (applicant or Entergy Operations) for exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 72.212(a)(2) and 10 CFR 72.214 pursuant to 10 CFR 72.7, for the Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 1 (ANO–1) and Unit 2 (ANO–2), facility located 6 miles west-northwest of Russellville, Arkansas. If granted, the exemption will authorize the applicant to load spent nuclear fuel in accordance with proposed Amendment 2 to Certificate of Compliance (CoC) 1014 granted to Holtec International (Holtec) for the HI-STORM 100 system. This request was docketed under 10 CFR Part 72; the Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation Docket No. is 72–13.

An NRC administrative review, documented in a letter to Entergy Operations dated June 2, 2005, found that the application contains sufficient information for the NRC staff to begin its technical review. Prior to issuance of the requested exemption, the Commission will have made the findings required by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's regulations. These findings will be documented in a Safety Evaluation Report. The issuance of the exemption will not be approved until the NRC has reviewed the application and has concluded that granting of the request will not be inimical to the common defense and security and will not constitute an unreasonable risk to the health and safety of the public. The NRC will complete an environmental assessment, in accordance with 10 CFR part 51. This action will be the subject of a subsequent notice in the *Federal Register*.

II. Further Information

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of NRC's "Rules of Practice," final NRC records and documents regarding this proposed action, including the exemption request dated May 23, 2005, are publically available in the records component of NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). These documents may be inspected at NRC's Public Electronic Reading Room at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. These documents may also be viewed

electronically on the public computers located at the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR), O1F21, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852. The PDR reproduction contractor will copy documents for a fee. Persons who do not have access to ADAMS or who encounter problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, should contact the NRC PDR Reference staff by telephone at 1–800–397–4209 or (301) 415–4737, or by e-mail to pdr@nrc.gov.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 2nd day of June 2005.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Christopher M. Regan,

Senior Project Manager, Spent Fuel Project Office, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.

[FR Doc. E5–2917 Filed 6–7–05; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50–255]

Nuclear Management Company, LLC, Palisades Nuclear Plant; Notice of Acceptance for Docketing of the Application and Notice of Opportunity for Hearing Regarding Renewal of Facility Operating License No. DPR–20 for an Additional 20-Year Period

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or the Commission) is considering application for the renewal of Operating License No. DPR–20, which authorizes the Nuclear Management Company, LLC, to operate the Palisades Nuclear Plant at 2530 megawatts thermal. The renewed license would authorize the applicant to operate the Palisades Nuclear Plant, for an additional 20 years beyond the period specified in the current license. The current Operating License for the Palisades Nuclear Plant expires on March 24, 2011.

The Commission's staff has received an application dated March 22, 2005 and a supplement dated May 5, 2005, from Nuclear Management Company, LLC, pursuant to 10 CFR Part 54, to renew the operating license DPR–20 for the Palisades Nuclear Plant. A Notice of Receipt and Availability of the license renewal application, "Nuclear Management Company, LLC; Palisades Nuclear Plant; Notice of Receipt and Availability of Application for Renewal Facility Operating License No. DPR–20 for an Additional 20-Year Period," was published in the *Federal Register* on April 12, 2005.

The Commission's staff has determined that Nuclear Management Company, LLC has submitted sufficient information in accordance with 10 CFR 54.19, 54.21, 54.22, 54.23, and 51.53(c) that is acceptable for docketing. The current Docket No. 50-255 for Operating License No. DPR-20 will be retained. The docketing of the renewal application and supplement does not preclude requesting additional information as the review proceeds, nor does it predict whether the Commission will grant or deny the application.

Before issuance of each requested renewed license, the NRC will have made the findings required by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations. In accordance with 10 CFR 54.29, the NRC will issue a renewed license on the basis of its review if it finds that actions have been identified and have been or will be taken with respect to: (1) Managing the effects of aging during the period of extended operation on the functionality of structures and components that have been identified as requiring aging management review, and (2) time-limited aging analyses that have been identified as requiring review, such that there is reasonable assurance that the activities authorized by the renewed licenses will continue to be conducted in accordance with the current licensing basis (CLB), and that any changes made to the plant's CLB comply with the Act and the Commission's regulations.

Additionally, in accordance with 10 CFR 51.95(c), the NRC will prepare an environmental impact statement that is a supplement to the Commission's NUREG-1437, "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Power Plants," dated May 1996. Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.26, and as part of the environmental scoping process, the staff intends to hold a public scoping meeting. Detailed information regarding this meeting will be the subject of a separate **Federal Register** notice.

Within 60 days after the date of publication of this **Federal Register** notice, the requestor/petitioner may file a request for a hearing, and any person whose interest may be affected by this proceeding and who wishes to participate as a party in the proceeding must file a written request for a hearing and a petition for leave to intervene with respect to the renewal of the licenses. Requests for a hearing and a petition for leave to intervene shall be filed in accordance with the Commission's "Rules of Practice for Domestic Licensing Proceedings" in 10 CFR Part 2. Interested persons should

consult a current copy of 10 CFR 2.309, which is available at the Commission's Public Document Room (PDR), located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland 20852 and is accessible from the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System's (ADAMS) Public Electronic Reading Room on the Internet at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. Persons who do not have access to ADAMS or who encounter problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS should contact the NRC's PDR reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, or by email at pdr@nrc.gov. If a request for a hearing or a petition for leave to intervene is filed within the 60-day period, the Commission or a presiding officer designated by the Commission or by the Chief Administrative Judge of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel will rule on the request and/or petition; and the Secretary or the Chief Administrative Judge of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board will issue a notice of a hearing or an appropriate order. In the event that no request for a hearing or petition for leave to intervene is filed within the 60-day period, the NRC may, upon completion of its evaluations and upon making the findings required under 10 CFR parts 51 and 54, renew the licenses without further notice.

As required by 10 CFR 2.309, a petition for leave to intervene shall set forth with particularity the interest of the petitioner in the proceeding, and how that interest may be affected by the results of the proceeding, taking into consideration the limited scope of matters that may be considered pursuant to 10 CFR parts 51 and 54. The petition must specifically explain the reasons why intervention should be permitted with particular reference to the following factors: (1) The nature of the requestor's/petitioner's right under Act to be made a party to the proceeding; (2) the nature and extent of the requestor's/petitioner's property, financial, or other interest in the proceeding; and (3) the possible effect of any decision or order which may be entered in the proceeding on the requestor's/petitioner's interest. The petition must also set forth the specific contentions which the petitioner/requestor seeks to have litigated at the proceeding.

Each contention must consist of a specific statement of the issue of law or fact to be raised or controverted. In addition, the requestor/petitioner shall provide a brief explanation of the bases of each contention and a concise statement of the alleged facts or the

expert opinion that supports the contention on which the requestor/petitioner intends to rely in proving the contention at the hearing. The requestor/petitioner must also provide references to those specific sources and documents of which the requestor/petitioner is aware and on which the requestor/petitioner intends to rely to establish those facts or expert opinion. The requestor/petitioner must provide sufficient information to show that a genuine dispute exists with the applicant on a material issue of law or fact.¹ Contentions shall be limited to matters within the scope of the action under consideration. The contention must be one that, if proven, would entitle the requestor/petitioner to relief. A requestor/petitioner who fails to satisfy these requirements with respect to at least one contention will not be permitted to participate as a party.

Each contention shall be given a separate numeric or alpha designation within one of the following groups and all like subject-matters shall be grouped together:

1. Technical—primarily concerns issues relating to technical and/or health and safety matters discussed or referenced in the Palisades Nuclear Plant, safety analysis for the application (including issues related to emergency planning and physical security to the extent that such matters are discussed or referenced in the application).

2. Environmental—primarily concerns issues relating to matters discussed or referenced in the Environmental Report for the license renewal application

3. Miscellaneous—does not fall into one of the categories outlined above.

As specified in 10 CFR 2.309, if two or more requestors/petitioners seek to co-sponsor a contention or propose substantially the same contention, the requestors/petitioners will be required to jointly designate a representative who shall have the authority to act for the requestors/petitioners with respect to that contention.

Those permitted to intervene become parties to the proceeding, subject to any limitations in the order granting leave to intervene, and have the opportunity to participate fully in the conduct of the hearing, including the opportunity to participate fully in the conduct of the hearing. A request for a hearing or a petition for leave to intervene must be filed by: (1) First class mail addressed

¹ To the extent that the application contains attachments and supporting documents that are not publicly available because they are asserted to contain safeguards or proprietary information, petitioners desiring access to this information should contact the applicant or applicant's counsel to discuss the need for a protective order.

to the Office of the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, Attention: Rulemaking and Adjudications Staff; (2) courier, express mail, and expedited delivery services: Office of the Secretary, Sixteenth Floor, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852, Attention: Rulemaking and Adjudications Staff; (3) Email addressed to the Office of the Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, HEARINGDOCKET@nrc.gov; or (4) facsimile transmission addressed to the Office of the Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC, Attention: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff at 301-415-1101, verification number is 301-415-1966. A copy of the request for hearing and petition for leave to intervene must also be sent to the Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC, 20555-0001, and it is requested that copies be transmitted either by means of facsimile transmission to 301-415-3725 or by e-mail to OGCMailCenter@nrc.gov. A copy of the request for hearing and petition for leave to intervene should also be sent to the attorney for the licensee. Jonathan Rogoff, Esquire, Vice President, Counsel & Secretary, Nuclear Management Company, LLC, 700 First Street, Hudson, WI 54016.

Nontimely requests and/or petitions and contentions will not be entertained absent a determination by the Commission, the presiding officer, or the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board that the petition, request and/or contentions should be granted based on a balancing of the factors specified in 10 CFR 2.309(a)(1)(i)-(viii).

Detailed information about the license renewal process can be found under the Nuclear Reactors icon at <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal.html> on the NRC's Web site. Copies of the application and supplement to renew the operating licenses for Palisades Nuclear Plant, are available for public inspection at the Commission's PDR, located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland 20852-2738, and at <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal/applications.html> the NRC's Web site while the application is under review. The NRC maintains an Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), which provides text and image files of NRC's public documents. These documents may be accessed through the NRC's Public Electronic Reading Room on the Internet at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/>

adams.html under ADAMS accession numbers ML050940434 and ML051300128. Persons who do not have access to ADAMS or who encounter problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, may contact the NRC Public Document Room (PDR) Reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737, or by e-mail to pdr@nrc.gov.

The staff has verified that a copy of the license renewal application and supplement are also available to local residents near the Palisades Nuclear Plant, at the South Haven Memorial Library, 314 Broadway, South Haven, MI 49090.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 2nd day of June, 2005.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Samson S. Lee,

Acting Program Director, License Renewal and Environmental Impacts Program, Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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

Nuclear Management Company, LLC, Point Beach Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2; Exemption

1.0 Background

Nuclear Management Company, LLC (NMC, the licensee), is the holder of Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-24 and DPR-27 which authorizes operation of the Point Beach Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2. The licenses provide, among other things, that the facility is subject to all rules, regulations, and orders of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC, the Commission) now or hereafter in effect.

The facility consists of two pressurized-water reactors (PWR) located in Manitowoc County, Wisconsin.

2.0 Request/Action

Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR) Part 50, Appendix R, "Fire Protection Program for Nuclear Power Facilities Operating Prior to January 1, 1979," established fire protection (FP) requirements to satisfy 10 CFR 50, appendix A, General Design Criterion 3, "Fire Protection."

Appendix R, Section III.G.1.a of 10 CFR Part 50 requires: "one train of systems necessary to achieve and maintain hot shutdown from either the

control room or emergency control station(s) is free of fire damage * * *"

By letter dated March 5, 2004, the licensee requested a permanent exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR Part 50, appendix R, Section III.G.1.a for a repair consisting of powering a dedicated air compressor from one of two pre-planned 480 volt power sources using pre-staged power cords and connecting the air compressor to nitrogen bottle manifolds on one or both reactor units using a pre-staged pneumatic hose with quick connect fittings.

The licensee stated:

The existing Safe Shutdown Analysis (SSA) for Point Beach credits a hard-piped nitrogen bottle bank to provide the first several hours of charging pump control air during hot shutdown. However, if the normal source of instrument air is not restored prior to depletion of this bottle bank, a dedicated air compressor is available to provide continued support for long term hot shutdown (and/or subsequent transition to cold shutdown) operation. This air compressor must be connected to a suitable power supply by means of electrical cables and to the charging pump backup control air manifolds by portable hoses.

3.0 Discussion

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. Section 50.12(a)(2)(ii) of 10 CFR states that special circumstances are present whenever "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. * * *"

10 CFR Part 50, Appendix R, Section III.G.1.a requires that, "one train of systems necessary to achieve and maintain hot shutdown conditions from either the control room or emergency control station(s) is free of fire damage." Appendix R, Section III.L.1, of 10 CFR Part 50 requires that an alternative or dedicated shutdown capability shall be able to, among other things, "(c) achieve and maintain hot standby conditions for a PWR; and (d) achieve cold shutdown conditions within 72 hours." NRC Inspection Report 50-266/2003-007; 50-301/2003-007, dated February 4, 2004, documents a Non-Cited Violation of Appendix R, Section III.L.1.c, in that NMC, "failed to ensure, without the need for 'hot standby repairs,' adequate