

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

NARA Electronic Records Archives (ERA) User Conference

AGENCY: National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: NARA is in the planning stages to build a digital archives that will preserve U.S. Government records of continuing value and make them available electronically to anyone, at any time, in any place, for as long as needed. NARA invites those who are interested to participate in a user conference to provide feedback concerning our strategic response to the challenge of preserving, managing, and accessing electronic records.

DATES: Registrations must be received by October 11, 2002.

The conference is scheduled to be held on November 8, 2002 from 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: National Archives at College Park, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740-6001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: James McAlpin at (301) 837-0443.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Registration is limited. The registration form and additional information is on the NARA Web site at www.archives.gov/electronic_records_archives/.

Dated: September 23, 2002.

Kimberly Richardson,

Federal Register Liaison Official.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket 72-44]

Arizona Public Service Company; Issuance of Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact Regarding a Proposed Exemption

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or the Commission) is considering issuance of an exemption, pursuant to 10 CFR 72.7, from the provisions of 10 CFR 72.72(d) to Arizona Public Service Company (APS or applicant). The requested exemption would allow APS to maintain a single set of spent fuel, high-level radioactive waste, and reactor-related GTCC waste records in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 50.71(d)(1), for the Independent Spent Fuel Storage

Installation (ISFSI) at the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (PVNGS) in Maricopa County, Arizona.

Environmental Assessment (EA)

Identification of Proposed Action: By letter dated September 4, 2001, APS requested an exemption from the requirement in 10 CFR 72.72(d) which states in part that, "Records of spent fuel, high-level radioactive waste, and reactor-related GTCC waste containing special nuclear material meeting the requirements in paragraph (a) of this section must be kept in duplicate. The duplicate set of records must be kept at a separate location sufficiently remote from the original records that a single event would not destroy both sets of records."

The proposed action before the Commission is whether to grant this exemption pursuant to 10 CFR 72.7.

Need for the Proposed Action: The applicant stated that ISFSI spent-fuel, high-level radioactive waste, and reactor-related GTCC waste records will be maintained in a manner consistent with the records of the PVNGS, which are stored in compliance with the requirements established in 10 CFR 50.71(d)(1). No exemption is requested from the 10 CFR 72.72(d) requirements for the records retention period requirements. The applicant seeks to provide consistency in recordkeeping maintenance for the PVNGS ISFSI spent fuel, high-level radioactive waste, and reactor-related GTCC waste records. The exemption request will also preclude the need to construct and operate a separate, second records storage facility to store a duplicate set of spent-fuel, high-level radioactive waste, and reactor-related GTCC waste records.

10 CFR 50.71(d)(1) provides requirements for the maintenance of nuclear power plant records. The regulation states:

Records which must be maintained pursuant to this part may be the original or a reproduced copy or microform if such reproduced copy or microform is duly authenticated by authorized personnel and the microform is capable of producing a clear and legible copy after storage for the period specified by the Commission regulations. The record may also be stored in electronic media with the capability of producing legible, accurate, and complete records during the required retention period. Records such as letters, drawings, specifications, must include all pertinent information such as stamps, initials, and signatures. The licensee shall maintain adequate safeguards against tampering with and loss of records.

Regulatory Guide 1.88, "Collection, Storage, and Maintenance of Nuclear Power Plant Quality Assurance Records," establishes guidance for the

storage of nuclear plant quality assurance records. APS plans to implement Revision 2 of Regulatory Guide 1.88, with minor exceptions described in the PVNGS Updated Final Safety Analysis Report, Section 1.8.

The requirements in ANSI N45.2.9-1974 have been endorsed by the NRC in Regulatory Guide 1.88 as adequate for satisfying the recordkeeping requirements of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix B, which states in part that "records shall be identifiable and retrievable." Additionally, conditions in 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix B establish that "[c]onsistent with applicable regulatory requirements [including 10 CFR 50.71(d)(1)], the applicant shall establish requirements concerning record retention, such as duration, location, and assigned responsibility." ANSI N.45.2.9-1974 also satisfies the requirements of 10 CFR 72.72 by providing for adequate maintenance of records regarding the identity and history of the spent fuel in storage. Such records would be subject to and need to be protected from the same types of degradation mechanisms as nuclear power plant Quality Assurance records.

Environmental Impacts of the

Proposed Action: An exemption from the requirement to store a duplicate set of ISFSI records at a separate location has no impact on the environment. Storage of records does not change the methods by which spent fuel will be handled and stored at the PVNGS ISFSI and does not change the amount of effluents, radiological or non-radiological, associated with the ISFSI.

Alternative to the Proposed Action: Since there is no environmental impact associated with the proposed action, alternatives are not evaluated other than the no action alternative. The alternative to the proposed action would be to deny approval of the exemption and, therefore, not allow storage of ISFSI spent fuel records at a single qualified record storage facility. The no action alternative would require the applicant to construct or identify a separate storage facility; therefore, the environmental impacts of the proposed action would be less than, or the same as, the no action alternative.

Agencies and Persons Consulted: On July 18, 2002, Arizona State official, Mr. William Wright, Program Manager of Radioactive Materials of the Arizona Radiation Regulatory Agency, was contacted regarding the environmental assessment for the proposed action and had no comments.

Finding of No Significant Impact

The environmental impacts of the proposed action have been reviewed in