

produced, along with measures of error for the seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted series, and on over-the-month and over-the-year change.

New and Reentrant Unemployment.

There has been a long-standing concern in the LAUS program regarding the estimation of unemployment at the substate level (for areas other than New York City, Los Angeles, and the balances of New York State and California). Of specific concern is the measurement of unemployed new and reentrants to the labor market. The difficulty in estimating new and reentrants led to the use of a proportionate adjustment of area estimates to the State total unemployed as a way of controlling for the underestimate at the area level. The current research has led to a proposal for an improved methodology.

The new methodology incorporates the CPS new and reentrants State data and utilizes improved econometric modeling techniques. The new model follows the basic form of the model created in 1983 and used today, but has been updated and improved. The proposed model uses a stochastic nonlinear estimation process rather than the global linear procedure used currently. A stochastic, or random, coefficient is one whose value is allowed to change over time. In this model, the values of the model coefficients change from month to month as the models are updated with information from current observations.

The model estimates are distributed to each labor market area in the State based on the area's share of the State population. New entrants are distributed based on the area's share of the State 16–19 year old population, and reentrants are distributed based on the area's share of the State 20 years and older population.

The new method of estimation successfully addresses the issue of underestimation and eliminates the need for significant proportionate adjustment of area estimates to the monthly State levels of unemployment.

Residency Adjustment. The underlying concepts and definitions of all labor force data developed by the LAUS program are consistent with those of the Current Population Survey (CPS), including the requirement that measures relate to the place of residence of the labor force participant. Establishment-based data on the number of nonagricultural wage and salary jobs by place of work from the Current Employment Statistics (CES) or the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) programs is the only current, geographically comprehensive

source of information on employment at the substate level, and are a significant input to LAUS estimation. The establishment series differs from the CPS in that the CPS counts employed persons where they reside rather than jobs by place of work. Thus, the establishment-based data must be adjusted to account for multiple-job holding and residency prior to use in LAUS estimation.

The current procedure utilizes a single adjustment ratio for each estimating area, using Decennial census data and March-April average establishment-based data. The Census estimate of all employed residents in an area is divided by the job count. This ratio is then applied each month to the nonfarm wage and salary estimate for the area to produce the resident nonfarm wage and salary employed estimate for the area.

A basic problem with the current Census-based procedure of adjusting for residency was the limited geographic scope for influencing the area's estimate of resident employed and static nature of the approach. Recognizing that labor market areas often are not defined to the point where commutation is zero, and that, in the intercensal period, job growth can and does occur in the areas surrounding the estimating area, a new approach to developing resident employment was considered.

The proposed method postulates that resident employment in an area is a function not only of the relationship between employed residents and jobs in that area, but in other areas within commuting distance. The procedure is more dynamic than the current method insofar as job count changes in commuting areas can affect resident employment. As in the current procedure, however, the commuting ratios themselves are fixed for the intercensal period.

Detailed descriptions of the current and Redesign approaches are available at the above address and at the BLS LAUS Web site <http://www.bls.gov/lau/home.htm>.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and included in the Notice of Decision on this proposal.

This notice is a general solicitation of comments from the public.

Signed in Washington, DC., this 29th day of October, 2004.

John M. Galvin,

Associate Commissioner, Office of Employment and Unemployment Statistics, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Maritime Advisory Committee for Occupational Safety and Health; Notice of Meeting

AGENCY: Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Labor.

ACTION: Maritime Advisory Committee for Occupational Safety and Health (MACOSH); Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Maritime Advisory Committee for Occupational Safety and Health (MACOSH) was established to advise the Assistant Secretary of Labor for OSHA on issues relating to occupational safety and health in the maritime industries. The purpose of this **Federal Register** notice is to announce the December 2004 meeting of the committee.

DATES: The committee will meet on December 8 through December 9, 2004. On December 7, the MACOSH work groups will meet from 9 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.; on December 8, the full committee will meet from 8 a.m. until approximately 4:30 p.m.; on December 9, the full committee will meet from 8 a.m. until approximately 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The committee will meet at the Norfolk Waterside Marriott, 232 East Main Street, Norfolk, Virginia 23510; phone: (757) 628–6473; fax: (202) 628–6452.

Mail comments, views, or statements in response to this notice to Jim Maddux, Director, Office of Maritime, OSHA, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N–3609, 200 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20210; phone (202) 693–2086; FAX: (202) 693–1663.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general information about MACOSH and this meeting: Jim Maddux, Director, Office of Maritime, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N–3609, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210; phone: (202) 693–2086. For information about the submission of comments, and requests to speak: Vanessa L. Welch, Office of Maritime, OSHA, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N–3609, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210; Phone: (202) 693–2086. Individuals with disabilities wishing to attend the meeting should contact Vanessa L. Welch at (202) 693–2086 at later than November 17, 2004 to obtain appropriate accommodations.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: All MACOSH meetings, including work group meetings, are open to the public. All interested persons are invited to

attend MACOSH at the times and places listed above. The full meeting on December 8 and 9 will include presentations and discussions of OSHA's standard and guidance activities, maritime enforcement, alliances and partnerships, outreach activities, and MACOSH work group reports. Specific topics will include OSHA's proposed standard for Chromium VI, a NIOSH maritime noise study, automatic external defibrillators (AED), and an update on development of the construction crane standard.

MACOSH has several active work groups. The container safety, longshoring, and shipyard work groups will meet on the morning of December 7. The work groups dealing with health issues, traffic safety, and safety culture will meet on the afternoon of December 7. The work groups will report to the full committee on December 8 and 9.

Public Participation: Written data, views or comments for consideration by MACOSH on the various agenda items listed above may be submitted to Vanessa L. Welch at the address listed above. Submissions received by November 17, 2004, will be provided to committee members and will be included in the record of the meeting. Requests to make oral presentations to the Committee may be granted as time permits. Anyone wishing to make an oral presentation to the Committee on any of the agenda items listed above should notify Vanessa L. Welch by November 17, 2004. The request should state the amount of time desired, the capacity in which the person will appear, and a brief outline of the content of the presentation.

Authority: John L. Henshaw, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health, directed the preparation of this notice under the authority granted by 6(b)(1) and 7(b) of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (29 U.S.C. 655, 656, the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App. 2), and 29 CFR part 1912.

Signed at Washington, DC., this 2nd day of November, 2004.

John L. Henshaw,

Assistant Secretary of Labor.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-286]

Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.; Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating License, Proposed No Significant Hazards Consideration Determination, and Opportunity for a Hearing

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. DPR-64 issued to Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc., (the licensee) for operation of the Indian Point Nuclear Generating Unit No. 3, located in Westchester County, New York.

The proposed amendment would revise Technical Specification (TS) 3.7.11, "Control Room Ventilation System (CRVS)," to add a note in limiting condition for operation (LCO) 3.7.11 and surveillance requirement (SR) 3.7.11.4 to allow, on a one-time basis, the placement of the CRVS in an alternate configuration to support tracer gas testing. The one-time allowance was proposed for the remaining period of the current operating cycle 13. The proposed amendment would also allow self-contained breathing apparatus and potassium iodide pill to be used as compensatory measures for the control room operators in the event that the tracer gas test results are not bounded by the dose consequence evaluations for the test.

Before issuance of the proposed license amendment, the Commission will have made findings required by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's regulations.

The Commission has made a proposed determination that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration. Under the Commission's regulations in Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR), section 50.92, this means that operation of the facility in accordance with the proposed amendment 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. As required by 10 CFR 50.91(a), the licensee has provided its analysis of the issue of no significant hazards consideration, which is presented below:

1. Does the proposed change involve a significant increase in the probability or

consequences of an accident previously evaluated?

Response: No.

The proposed change involves a modification to the design and operation of the control room ventilation system (CRVS). The primary effect of the proposed modification is an increase in the flow rate of filtered outside air into the control room. Industry experience and analyses indicate that this change will tend to reduce the amount of unfiltered outside air migrating through the control room envelope. The proposed change also establishes compensatory measures that could be invoked in the event that a measurement of unfiltered inleakage indicates the dose analysis assumptions are not bounding. Neither of these proposed changes is related to accident initiators so that the probability of a previously evaluated accident is not affected. The scope of previously evaluated accidents includes the dose consequences to control room operators. Dose consequence analyses have been updated, using existing dose acceptance criteria based on 10 CFR [Part] 50, Appendix A, GDC [General Design Criterion]—19, to reflect the proposed modification of the CRVS. In addition, establishing compensatory measures available to control room operators, provides further [assurance] that the dose consequences of previously evaluated accidents meet existing limits.

Therefore the proposed changes do not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated.

2. Does the proposed change create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated?

Response: No.

There are no new accident precursors being created by the proposed modification of the CRVS or by establishing compensatory measures that could be used if unfiltered inleakage through the control room envelope is higher than assumed in dose consequence analyses. The CRVS will continue to function as required to provide protection to the control room operators and the availability of compensatory measures provides further assurance that dose limits will be met.

Therefore, the proposed changes described in this license amendment request will not create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated.

3. Does the proposed change involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety?

Response: No.

The existing dose limits established in 10 CFR [Part] 50, Appendix A, GDC 19 for control room operators are being maintained. Dose consequence analyses have been prepared that account for the proposed new configuration of the CRVS and a limit for unfiltered inleakage has been established as an acceptance criterion for the performance of tracer gas testing. In the event that tracer gas test results conclude that additional measures are needed for the control room envelope, compensatory measures are available to provide further assurance that dose limits will be met.