

Secretary of the Commission either by means of facsimile transmission to 301-415-1101, or by e-mail to hearingdocket@nrc.gov.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.1205(f), each request for a hearing must also be served, by delivering it personally or by mail, to:

1. The applicant, The Dow Chemical Company, Ashman Center, 4520 East Ashman, Midland, MI 48674, Attention: Mr. Ben Baker, Project Manager, and;

2. The NRC staff, by delivery to the Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852-2738, between 7:45 a.m. and 4:15 p.m., Federal workdays, or by mail, addressed to the Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001. Because of continuing disruptions in the delivery of mail to United States Government offices, it is requested that requests for hearing be transmitted to the Office of the General Counsel either by means of facsimile transmission to 301-415-3725, or by e-mail to OGCMailCenter@nrc.gov.

In addition to meeting other applicable requirements of 10 CFR Part 2 of NRC's regulations, a request for a hearing filed by a person other than an applicant must describe in detail:

1. The interest of the requester in the proceeding;
2. How that interest may be affected by the results of the proceeding, including the reasons why the requester should be permitted a hearing, with particular reference to the factors set out in § 2.1205(h);
3. The requester's areas of concern about the licensing activity that is the subject matter of the proceeding; and
4. The circumstances establishing that the request for a hearing is timely in accordance with § 2.1205(d).

IV. Further Information

The application for the license amendment and supporting documentation are available for inspection at NRC's Public Electronic Reading Room at <http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/ADAMS/index.html>. (ADAMS Access Numbers: January 31, 2002, Revised Supplement—ML023170462; July 19, 2002, Attachment 1—ML023170508; August 5, 2002, Acceptance Letter—ML022280370) Any questions with respect to this action should be referred to M. (Sam) Nalluswami, Project Manager, Decommissioning Branch, Division of Waste Management, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission,

Washington, DC 20555-0001. Telephone: (301) 415-6694. Fax: (301) 415-5398.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 9th day of December, 2002.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Larry Camper,

Chief, Decommissioning Branch, Division of Waste Management, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.

[FR Doc. 02-31611 Filed 12-13-02; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 40-8968]

Notice of Timely Receipt and Consideration of Renewal Application for the Crownpoint Uranium Project, Crownpoint, NM, and Opportunity To Provide Comments and To Request a Hearing

I. Introduction

Notice is hereby given that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has received, by letter dated August 22, 2002, a request from Hydro Resources, Inc. (HRI) for renewal of NRC Source Material License SUA-1580 for the Crownpoint Uranium Project. The application is deemed timely filed, and accordingly, the license will not expire until final action has been taken by the NRC.

In January 1998, HRI was granted by the NRC, Source Material License SUA-1580 for uranium production at the Crownpoint Uranium Project which is the subject of an ongoing adjudication before the NRC. HRI has submitted a license renewal application for a second term. The application only requests the extension of the effective dates of the existing license, all the processes authorized by the current license will remain unchanged.

If the NRC approves the renewal request, the approval will be documented in the issuance of a renewed HRI license. However, before approving the proposed renewal, the NRC will need to make the findings required by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, and NRC's regulations. These findings will be documented in a Safety Evaluation Report and an Environmental Assessment.

II. Opportunity To Provide Comments

The NRC is providing notice to individuals in the vicinity of the facility that the NRC is in receipt of this request, and will accept comments concerning this action within 30 days of the

publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. The comments may be provided to the Chief, Rules and Directives Branch, Division of Administration Services, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, and should cite the publication date and page number of this **Federal Register** notice. Written comments may also be delivered to Room T-6 D59, Two White Flint North, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852, from 7:30 a.m. until 4:15 p.m. on Federal workdays.

III. Opportunity To Request a Hearing

NRC also provides notice that this is a proceeding on an application for an amendment of a license falling within the scope of subpart L, "Informal Hearing Procedures for Adjudication in Materials Licensing Proceedings," of NRC's rules and practice for domestic licensing proceedings in 10 CFR part 2. Whether or not a person has or intends to provide comments as set out in section II above, pursuant to § 2.1205(a), any person whose interest may be affected by this proceeding may file a request for a hearing in accordance with § 2.1205(d). A request for a hearing must be filed within thirty (30) days of the date of publication of this **Federal Register** notice.

The request for a hearing must be filed with the Office of the Secretary either:

1. By delivery to the Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff of the Office of the Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852-2738, between 7:45 a.m. and 4:15 p.m., Federal workdays; or

2. By mail or telegram, addressed to the Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001. Attention: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff. Because of continuing disruptions in the delivery of mail to United States Government offices, it is requested that requests for hearings be also transmitted to the Secretary of the Commission either by means of facsimile transmission to 301-415-1101, or by e-mail to hearingdocket@nrc.gov.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.1205(f), each request for a hearing must also be served, by delivering it personally or by mail, to:

1. The applicant, Hydro Resources, Inc., 650 South Edmonds Lane, Suite 108, Lewisville, Texas 75067, Attention: Mr. Mark S. Pelizza, President; and

2. The NRC staff, by delivery to the Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, One

White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852-2738, between 7:45 a.m. and 4:15 p.m., Federal workdays, or by mail, addressed to the Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001. Because continuing disruptions in the delivery mail to United States Government offices, it is requested that requests for hearing be transmitted to the Office of the General Counsel either by means of facsimile transmission to 301-415-3725, or by e-mail to OGCMailCenter@nrc.gov.

In addition to meeting other applicable requirements of 10 CFR part 2 of the NRC's regulations, a request for a hearing filed by a person other than an applicant must describe in detail:

1. The interest of the requester in the proceeding;
2. How that interest may be affected by the results of the proceeding, including the reasons why the requestor should be permitted a hearing, with particular reference to the factors set out in § 2.1205(h).
3. The requester's areas of concern about the licensing activity that is the subject matter of the proceeding; and
4. The circumstances establishing that the request for a hearing is timely in accordance with § 2.1205(d).

IV. Further Information

The application for the license renewal is available for inspection at NRC's Public Electronic Reading Room at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (ADAMS Accession Number: ML022460195, License Renewal Request, August 22, 2002). Documents may also be examined and/or copied for a fee, at the NRC's Public Document Room, located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852. Any questions with respect to this action should be referred to Mr. Michael Layton, Project Manager, Fuel Cycle Facilities Branch, Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Mail Stop T-8A33, Washington, DC 20555-0001. Telephone: 301-415-6676. Fax: 301-415-5955.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 9th day of December, 2002.

For the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Daniel M. Gillen,

Chief, Fuel Cycle Facilities Branch, Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.
[FR Doc. 02-31607 Filed 12-13-02; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-318]

Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Inc., Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Unit No. 2; Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is considering issuance of an exemption from Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR) Part 50.44, 46 and Appendix K for Renewed Facility Operating License No. DPR-69, issued to Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Inc. (the licensee), for operation of the Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Unit No. 2 (Calvert Cliffs), located in Calvert County, Maryland.

Environmental Assessment

Identification of the Proposed Action

The proposed action, as described in the licensee's application for exemption dated August 6, 2002, would allow the licensee to use up to four lead fuel assemblies (LFAs) with an advanced cladding material, a zirconium-based alloy, that does not meet the definition of Zircaloy or ZIRLO, which are referred to in Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations section 50.46(a)(1)(i). The LFAs are scheduled to be loaded into the Calvert Cliffs Unit 2 reactor core during the upcoming refueling outage and would remain in the core for 2 cycles.

The Need for the Proposed Action

The proposed exemption from 10 CFR 50.44, 10 CFR 50.46, and Appendix K to 10 CFR Part 50 is needed because these regulations specifically refer to light-water reactors containing fuel consisting of uranium oxide pellets enclosed in zircaloy or ZIRLO tubes. A new zirconium-based alloy cladding has been developed, which is not the same chemical composition as zircaloy or ZIRLO. Therefore, the licensee needs an exemption to insert up to four assemblies containing the new fuel cladding material into the Calvert Cliffs reactor core for test during operation.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

The NRC has completed its evaluation of the proposed action and concludes that, the proposed exemption will not present an undue risk to the public health and safety. The safety evaluation performed by Framatone ANP, Inc. demonstrates that the predicted chemical, mechanical, and material performance of the M5 cladding is acceptable under all anticipated M5™

operational occurrences and postulated accidents. Furthermore, the LFAs will be placed in non-limiting core locations. In the unlikely event that cladding failures occur in the LFAs, environmental impact would be minimal and is bounded by previous environmental impact statements.

The proposed action will not significantly increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types of effluents that may be released off site, and there is no significant increase in occupational or public radiation exposure. Therefore, there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

In regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed action does not have a potential to affect any historic sites. It does not affect nonradiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Accordingly, the NRC concludes that there are no significant environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Environmental Impacts of the Alternatives to the Proposed Action

As an alternative to the proposed action, the staff considered denial of the proposed action (*i.e.*, the "no-action" alternative). Denial of the application would result in no change in current environmental impacts. The environmental impacts of the proposed action and the alternative action are similar.

Alternative Use of Resources

The action does not involve the use of any different resource than those previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement for the Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant (CCNPP) dated April 1973 or the Final Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal for the CCNPP dated October 1999.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

On September 5, 2002, the staff consulted with the Maryland State official, Richard McLean of the Maryland Department of the Environment, regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comments.

Finding of No Significant Impact

On the basis of the environmental assessment, the NRC concludes that the