

requirements without the relief provided by ASME Code Case N-640 would unnecessarily restrict the P/T operating window, especially at low temperature conditions.

Application of ASME Code Case N-640 will provide results which are sufficiently conservative to ensure the integrity of the reactor coolant pressure boundary while providing P/T curves which are not overly restrictive. Implementation of the proposed P/T curves, as allowed by ASME Code Case N-640, does not significantly reduce the margin of safety.

In the associated exemption, the NRC staff has determined that, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.12(a)(2)(ii), the underlying purpose of the regulation will continue to be served by the implementation of ASME Code Case N-640.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

The NRC has completed its evaluation of the proposed action and concludes that the proposed action provides adequate margin of safety against brittle failure of the reactor coolant pressure boundary.

The proposed action will not significantly increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types of any 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.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed action does not involve 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.

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

This action does not involve the use of any resources not previously

considered in the Final Environmental Statement for BVPS-2.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

In accordance with its stated policy, on July 10, 2000, the staff consulted with the Pennsylvania State official, Mr. L. Ryan of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Bureau, Division of Nuclear Safety, 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 proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, the NRC has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed action.

For further details with respect to the proposed action, see the licensee's letter dated June 17, 1999, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, The Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC. Publicly available records will be accessible electronically from the ADAMS Public Library component on the NRC Web site, <http://www.nrc.gov> (the Electronic Reading Room).

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 16th day of August, 2000.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Daniel S. Collins,

Project Manager, Section 1, Project Directorate I, Division of Licensing Project Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

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OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Federal Prevailing Rate Advisory Committee; Open Committee Meetings

According to the provisions of section 10 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), notice is hereby given that meetings of the Federal Prevailing Rate Advisory Committee will be held on—

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Thursday, September 21, 2000

Thursday, September 28, 2000

The meeting will start at 10 a.m. and will be held in Room 5A06A, Office of Personnel Management Building, 1900 E Street, NW., Washington, DC.

The Federal Prevailing Rate Advisory Committee is composed of a Chair, five

representatives from labor unions holding exclusive bargaining rights for Federal blue-collar employees, and five representatives from Federal agencies. Entitlement to membership on the Committee is provided for in 5 U.S.C. 5347.

The Committee's primary responsibility is to review the Prevailing Rate System and other matters pertinent to establishing prevailing rates under subchapter IV, chapter 53, 5 U.S.C., as amended, and from time to time advise the Office of Personnel Management.

This scheduled meeting will start in open session with both labor and management representatives attending. During the meeting either the labor members or the management members may caucus separately with the Chair to devise strategy and formulate positions. Premature disclosure of the matters discussed in these caucuses would unacceptably impair the ability of the Committee to reach a consensus on the matters being considered and would disrupt substantially the disposition of its business. Therefore, these caucuses will be closed to the public because of a determination made by the Director of the Office of Personnel Management under the provisions of section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463) and 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(9)(B). These caucuses may, depending on the issues involved, constitute a substantial portion of a meeting.

Annually, the Chair compiles a report of pay issues discussed and concluded recommendations. These reports are available to the public, upon written request to the Committee's Secretary.

The public is invited to submit material in writing to the Chair on Federal Wage System pay matters felt to be deserving of the Committee's attention. Additional information on this meeting may be obtained by contacting the Committee's Secretary, Office of Personnel Management, Federal Prevailing Rate Advisory Committee, Room 5538, 1900 E Street, NW., Washington, DC 20415, (202) 606-1500.

Dated: August 10, 2000.

John F. Leyden,

Chairman, Federal Prevailing Rate Advisory Committee.

[FR Doc. 00-21176 Filed 8-18-00; 8:45 am]

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POSTAL SERVICE

Plan for Secure Postage Meter Technology

AGENCY: Postal Service.

ACTION: Notice of proposed plan with request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Postal Service recently completed the first phase of a plan to remove insecure postage meters from the marketplace with the decertification of mechanical postage meters. The proposed plan for the second phase, the retirement of manually reset electronic meters, was published for comment May 1, 2000. While these comments are under review, the Postal Service is publishing notice of additional phases of the proposed plan for secure postage meter technology. Upon completion of the phases of this plan all meters in service will offer enhanced levels of security, thereby greatly reducing the Postal Service's exposure to meter fraud, misuse, and loss of revenue.

DATES: Comments must be received October 5, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent to the Manager, Postage Technology Management, U.S. Postal Service, Room 8430, 475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Washington DC 20260-2444.

Copies of all written comments will be available at the above address for inspection and photocopying between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday at the above address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nicholas S. Stankosky, (202) 268-5311.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In 1996 the Postal Service, in cooperation with all authorized postage meter manufacturers, began a phaseout, or decertification, of all mechanical postage meters because of identified cases of indiscernible tampering and misuse. Postal revenues were proven to be at serious risk. The completion of this effort, which resulted in the withdrawal of 776,000 mechanical meters from service, completed Phase I of the Proposed Plan for Secure Technology. Phase II of the Proposed Plan, the retirement of electronic meters that are manually set by postal employees, was described in the **Federal Register** on May 1, 2000. Additional phases of the Proposed Plan are described in the current notice.

It is the Postal Service's intent to make this an orderly process that minimizes impacts on meter users. Notification of additional phases of the proposed plan is published at this time to give both postage meter manufacturers and postage meter users ample time to make timely and intelligent decisions on the selection of postage meters and associated mailing equipment. Given the rapid pace of new technological developments for secure postage meter technology, meter

manufacturers should not offer, and customers should not accept, leases for postage meter equipment of more than five (5) years' duration.

Phases III and IV of the Postal Service proposed plan for secure postage meter technology affect non-digital, or letterpress, meters that are remote set under the Computerized Meter Resetting System (CMRS). If such a meter has a timeout feature, which automatically disables the meter if it is not reset within a specified time period, it is called an enhanced meter. Phase III of the proposed plan is to end the placement of non-enhanced CMRS letterpress meters by June 2001. Phase IV of the proposed plan is to end the placement of enhanced CMRS letterpress meters by December 2003.

A final plan will be published after all comments have been received and reviewed by the Postal Service.

Stanley F. Mires,
Chief Counsel, Legislative.

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RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Act of 1988; Notice of RRB and SSA Records Used in Computer Matching

AGENCY: Railroad Retirement Board (RRB).

ACTION: Notice of Records Used in Computer Matching Programs; Notification to individuals who are railroad employees, or applicants and beneficiaries under the Railroad Retirement Act or who are applicants or beneficiaries under the Social Security Act.

SUMMARY: As required by the Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Act of 1988, RRB is issuing public notice of its use and intent to use, in ongoing computer matching programs, information obtained from the Social Security Administration (SSA) of the amount of wages reported to SSA and the amount of benefits paid by that agency. The RRB is also issuing public notice, on behalf of the Social Security Administration, of SSA's use and intent to use, in ongoing computer matching programs, information obtained from the RRB of the amount of railroad earnings reported to the RRB.

The purposes of this notice are (1) to advise individuals applying for or receiving benefits under the Railroad Retirement Act of the use made by RRB of this information obtained from SSA

by means of a computer match and (2) to advise individuals applying for or receiving benefits under the Social Security Act of the use made by SSA of this information obtained from RRB by means of a computer match.

ADDRESSES: Interested parties may comment on this publication by writing to Ms. Beatrice Ezerski, Secretary to the Board, Railroad Retirement Board, 844 North Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611-2092.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. LeRoy Blommaert, Privacy Act Officer, Railroad Retirement Board, 844 North Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611-2092, telephone number (312) 751-4548.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Act of 1988, Pub. L. 100-503, requires a Federal agency participating in an computer matching program to publish a notice regarding the establishment of a matching program. This notice relates to a prior consolidation of two matching programs. Under one of these programs (referenced by RRB for convenience as RRB/SSA 1-2-3), SSA furnishes to RRB information needed by RRB to administer the Railroad Retirement Act. Under the other program (referenced by RRB for convenience as RRB/SSA-4), RRB furnishes to SSA information needed by SSA to administer the Social Security Act. For RRB/SSA 1-2-3, the required notice covering the fourth cycle of the program which began July 6, 1997, was published at 62 FR 25679 (May 9, 1997); for RRB/SSA-4, the required notice covering the fourth cycle of the program which began August 28, 1997, was published at 62 FR 40563 (July 29, 1997). The last notice for the consolidated matching program which began April 29, 1998 was published at 63 FR 14983 (March 27, 1998).

Name of Participating Agencies: Social Security Administration and Railroad Retirement Board.

Purpose of the Match: The RRB will, on a daily basis, obtain from SSA a record of the wages reported to SSA for persons who have applied for benefits under the Railroad Retirement Act and a record of the amount of benefits paid by that agency to persons who are receiving or have applied for benefits under the Railroad Retirement Act. The wage information is needed to compute the amount of the tier I annuity component provided by sections 3(a), 4(a) and 4(f) of the Railroad Retirement Act (45 U.S.C. 231b(a), 45 U.S.C. 231c(a) and 45 U.S.C. 231c(f)). The benefit information is needed to adjust the tier