

maintain a safe and secure status and can be safely restarted. The exemption request also states that maintenance activities for structures, systems and components that are significant to public health and safety will be performed, if required. The NRC staff finds the exclusion of discretionary maintenance from the exemption request to be consistent with the intent of the exemption.

In its exemption request the licensee committed to maintain the following guidance in a Surry 1 and 2 site procedure:

- The conditions necessary to sequester site personnel that are consistent with the conditions specified in the Surry 1 and 2 exemption request.
- The provisions for ensuring that personnel who are not performing duties are provided an opportunity as well as accommodations for restorative rest.

- The condition for departure from this exemption, consistent with the Site Vice President's (or his designee's) determination that adequate staffing is available to meet the requirements of Part 26.205(c) and (d).

In its RAI response letter the licensee committed to maintain the following guidance in its hurricane response procedure:

- Guidance that emphasizes the need for pre-planned and consistent work-shift start times to better facilitate fatigue management.
- Guidance that states that the Station Hurricane Response Organization staff will be provided an opportunity for at least 10 hours of restorative rest when off-shift and should not be assigned any duties when off-shift.

When the exemption period(s) ends, the licensee is immediately subject to the scheduling requirements of 10 CFR 26.205(c) and the work hour/rest break/days off requirements of 10 CFR 26.205(d), and must ensure that any individual performing covered work complies with these requirements. Section 26.205(d)(3) requires the licensee to "look back" over the calculation period and count the hours the individual has worked and the rest breaks and days off he/she has had, including those that occurred during the licensee-declared emergency. Hours worked must be below the maximum limits and rest breaks must be above the minimum requirements in order for the licensee to allow the individual to perform covered work. Days off and hours and shifts worked during the licensee-declared emergency and the exempted period before and after the declared emergency, would be counted as usual in the establishment of the

applicable shift schedule and compliance with the minimum-days-off requirements.

Granting these exemptions is consistent with 10 CFR 26.207(d) Plant Emergencies which allows the licensee to not meet the requirements of 10 CFR 26.205(c) and (d) during declared emergencies as defined in the licensee's emergency plan. The Part 26 Statement of Considerations, page 17148 states that "Plant emergencies are extraordinary circumstances that may be most effectively addressed through staff augmentation that can only be practically achieved through the use of work hours in excess of the limits of 10 CFR 26.205(c) and (d)." The objective of the exemption is to ensure that the control of work hours does not impede a licensee's ability to use whatever staff resources may be necessary to respond to a plant emergency and ensure that the plant reaches and maintains a safe and secure status. The actions described in the exemption request and submitted procedures are consistent with the recommendations in NUREG-1474, "Effect of Hurricane Andrew on the Turkey Point Nuclear Generating Station from August 20-30, 1992." Also consistent with NUREG-1474, the NRC staff expects the licensee would have completed a reasonable amount of hurricane preparation prior to the need to sequester personnel, in order to minimize personnel exposure to high winds.

The NRC staff has reviewed the exemption request from certain work hour controls during conditions of high winds and recovery from high wind conditions. Based on the considerations discussed above, the NRC staff has concluded that (1) There is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by the proposed exemption, (2) such activities will be consistent with the Commission's regulations and guidance, and (3) the issuance of the exemption will not be contrary to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Consistent With Common Defense and Security

This change has no relation to security issues. Therefore, the common defense and security is not impacted by this exemption.

4.0 Conclusion

Accordingly, the Commission has determined that, pursuant to 10 CFR 26.09, granting an exemption to the licensee from the requirements in 10 CFR 26.205(c) and (d) during severe wind events such as tropical storms and

hurricanes and bounded by the entry and exit conditions of the exemption request, by allowing Surry 1 and 2 to sequester individuals to ensure the plant reaches and maintains a safe and secure status, is authorized by law and will not endanger life or property and is otherwise in the public interest.

Therefore, the Commission hereby grants Virginia Electric Power Company an exemption from the requirement of 10 CFR 26.205(c) and (d) during periods of severe winds.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.32, the Commission has determined that the granting of this exemption will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment published in the **Federal Register** on August 31, 2011 (76 FR 54259).

This exemption is effective upon issuance.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 13th day of September 2011.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Joseph G. Giitter,

Director, Division of Operating Reactor Licensing, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 2011-24359 Filed 9-21-11; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[NRC-2009-0494]

Final Interim Staff Guidance: Review of Evaluation To Address Gas Accumulation Issues in Safety Related Systems

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff is issuing its Final Interim Staff Guidance (ISG) DC/COL-ISG-019 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML111110572). The purpose of this ISG is to clarify the NRC staff guidance to address issues of gas accumulation in safety related systems. This ISG revises and updates the guidance provided to the staff in Standard Review Plan (SRP) Section 5.4.7, "Residual Heat Removal System," Section 6.3, "Emergency Core Cooling System," and Section 6.5.2, "Containment Spray System" of NUREG-0800, "Standard Review Plan for the Review of Safety Analysis Reports for Nuclear Power Plants," March 2007. The NRC staff issues DC/COL-ISGs to facilitate timely implementation of current staff

guidance and to facilitate activities associated with review of applications for design certifications and combined licenses by the Office of New Reactors. The NRC staff intends to incorporate the final approved DC/COL-ISG-019 into the next revision of the SRP and related guidance documents.

Disposition: On November 12, 2009 (74 FR 58323), the NRC staff issued proposed DC/COL-ISG-019 on "Review of Evaluation to Address Gas Accumulation Issues in Safety Related Systems," ADAMS Accession No. ML092360375. The staff received comments (ADAMS Accession No. ML093500086) on the proposed guidance on December 14, 2009. These comments were further discussed in a public meeting held at the NRC on January 20, 2010, and in a conference call on July 9, 2010. This final issuance incorporates changes from the majority of the comments. A document comparing the version of the ISG that went out for public comment and the final version of the ISG can be found under ADAMS Accession No. ML11170302.

ADDRESSES: Publicly available documents created or received at the NRC are available online in the NRC Library at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. From this page, the public can gain entry into ADAMS, which provides text and image files of the NRC's public documents. If you do not have access to ADAMS or if there are problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, contact the NRC's Public Document Room reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737, or by e-mail to pdr.resource@nrc.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Joseph E. Donoghue, Chief, Reactor Systems, Nuclear Performance and Code Review Branch, Division of Safety Systems & Risk Assessment, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001; telephone at 301-415-1193 or e-mail at joseph.e.donoghue@nrc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The agency posts its issued staff guidance in the agency external web page (<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/isg/>).

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 9th day of September, 2011.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission,

William F. Burton,
Chief, Rulemaking and Guidance
Development Branch, Division of New Reactor
Licensing, Office of New Reactors.

[FR Doc. 2011-24344 Filed 9-21-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. A2011-73; Order No. 858]

Post Office Closing

AGENCY: Postal Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This document informs the public that an appeal of the closing of the Langston, Alabama post office has been filed. It identifies preliminary steps and provides a procedural schedule. Publication of this document will allow the Postal Service, petitioner, and others to take appropriate action.

DATES: *Administrative record due (from Postal Service):* September 29, 2011; *deadline for notices to intervene:* October 11, 2011. See the Procedural Schedule in the **SUPPLEMENTARY**

INFORMATION section for other dates of interest.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments electronically by accessing the "Filing Online" link in the banner at the top of the Commission's Web site (<http://www.prc.gov>) or by directly accessing the Commission's Filing Online system at <https://www.prc.gov/prc-pages/filing-online/login.aspx>. Commenters who cannot submit their views electronically should contact the person identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section as the source for case-related information for advice on alternatives to electronic filing.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephen L. Sharfman, General Counsel, at 202-789-6820 (case-related information) or DocketAdmins@prc.gov (electronic filing assistance).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 404(d), on September 14, 2011, the Commission received a petition for review of the Postal Service's determination to close the Langston post office in Langston, Alabama. The petition was filed by Donald J. Hahn (Petitioner) and is postmarked September 1, 2011. The Commission hereby institutes a proceeding under 39 U.S.C. 404(d)(5) and establishes Docket No. A2011-73 to consider Petitioner's appeal. If Petitioner would like to further explain his position with supplemental information or facts, Petitioner may either file a Participant Statement on PRC Form 61 or file a brief with the Commission no later than October 19, 2011.

Categories of issues apparently raised. Petitioner contends that: (1) The Postal Service failed to consider the effect of the closing on the community (see 39 U.S.C. 404(d)(2)(A)(i)); (2) the Postal Service failed to consider whether or

not it will continue to provide a maximum degree of effective and regular postal services to the community (see 39 U.S.C. 404(d)(2)(A)(iii)); and (3) failure to observe procedures required by law (see 39 U.S.C. 404(d)(5)(B)).

After the Postal Service files the administrative record and the Commission reviews it, the Commission may find that there are more legal issues than those set forth above, or that the Postal Service's determination disposes of one or more of those issues. The deadline for the Postal Service to file the applicable administrative record with the Commission is September 29, 2011. See 39 CFR 3001.113. In addition, the due date for any responsive pleading by the Postal Service to this Notice is September 29, 2011.

Availability; Web site posting. The Commission has posted the appeal and supporting material on its Web site at <http://www.prc.gov>. Additional filings in this case and participants' submissions also will be posted on the Commission's Web site, if provided in electronic format or amenable to conversion, and not subject to a valid protective order. Information on how to use the Commission's Web site is available online or by contacting the Commission's webmaster via telephone at 202-789-6873 or via electronic mail at prc-webmaster@prc.gov.

The appeal and all related documents are also available for public inspection in the Commission's docket section. Docket section hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., eastern time, Monday through Friday, except on Federal government holidays. Docket section personnel may be contacted via electronic mail at prc-dockets@prc.gov or via telephone at 202-789-6846.

Filing of documents. All filings of documents in this case shall be made using the Internet (Filing Online) pursuant to Commission rules 9(a) and 10(a) at the Commission's Web site, <http://www.prc.gov>, unless a waiver is obtained. See 39 CFR 3001.9(a) and 3001.10(a). Instructions for obtaining an account to file documents online may be found on the Commission's Web site or by contacting the Commission's docket section at prc-dockets@prc.gov or via telephone at 202-789-6846.

The Commission reserves the right to redact personal information which may infringe on an individual's privacy rights from documents filed in this proceeding.

Intervention. Persons, other than Petitioner and respondent, wishing to be heard in this matter are directed to file a notice of intervention. See 39 CFR 3001.111(b). Notices of intervention in this case are to be filed on or before