

The commenter did not provide any data on how many or what fraction of these alarms are triggered by the wastes from these patients. With regard to the environmental pathways of radioiodine, ICRP Publication 94 states that “regarding the release of patients from the hospital, the radioiodine is in the patient where it decays or is excreted primarily in urine, and finds its way into the environment.” According to the report, the impact of the released I-131 on the environment should be minimal, considering that I-131 has a relatively short half life of 8 days. The time it takes for the excreta of patients to be processed and returned to the ecosystem is relatively long. In addition, the impact of I-131 on the environment from this pathway is usually independent of whether the patient is hospitalized after treatment or released to go home.

### Conclusion

The decision to deny the petition is consistent with NRC’s Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2008–2013. NRC’s strategic safety goal to “ensure adequate protection of public health and safety and the environment” would continue to be maintained because NRC believes that the current rule is adequate to protect public health and safety from the release of these patients. The decision is also consistent with the Strategic Plan’s focus on Organization Excellence. Specifically, the openness objective was accomplished by soliciting and considering public comments on the petition. It is expected that denying this petition will continue to maintain the NRC’s effectiveness objective because reverting to the 1997 release criteria as requested by the petitioner would place a significant regulatory burden on licensees with no commensurate benefit to public health and safety.

In conclusion, NRC finds that the arguments presented in PRM-35-18 do not support a rulemaking to revoke the patient release criteria in 10 CFR 35.75. Reverting to the 1997 patient release criteria would impose unnecessary regulatory burden and is not warranted for the protection of public health and safety. To address the petitioner’s concern for exposure to children and infants, NRC has prepared a RIS and additional guidance which will be issued to all NRC medical use licensees, and to the Agreement States, concurrent to the resolution of this petition.

For the reasons cited in this document, the NRC denies this petition for rulemaking.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 7th day of May 2008.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**R.W. Borchardt,**

*Executive Director for Operations.*

[FR Doc. E8-11344 Filed 5-20-08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7590-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

#### 18 CFR Part 35

[Docket No. AD08-8-000]

#### Demand Response in Organized Electric Markets

May 13, 2008.

**AGENCY:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, DOE.

**ACTION:** Supplemental Notice of Technical Conference.

**SUMMARY:** The Commission is providing an agenda for the technical conference to be held in this proceeding on May 21, 2008, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (EST), and detailed information regarding attendance, internet access, and transcripts. This conference will provide a forum to consider issues related to demand response in organized electric markets, as discussed in the Commission’s Notice of Proposed Rulemaking which was issued on March 8, 2008 in Commission Docket Nos. RM07-19-000 and AD07-7-000.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ryan Irwin, Office of Energy Market Regulation, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, (202) 502-6454, [Ryan.Irwin@ferc.gov](mailto:Ryan.Irwin@ferc.gov).

Elizabeth Arnold, Office of the General Counsel—Energy Markets, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, (202) 502-8818, [Elizabeth.Arnold@ferc.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Arnold@ferc.gov).

On April 10, 2008, the Commission issued a Notice (April 10 Notice) scheduling a staff technical conference in the above-captioned proceeding. As stated in the April 10 Notice, the conference will provide a forum to consider issues related to demand response in organized electric markets, as discussed in the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking issued in Docket Nos. RM07-19-000 and AD07-7-000. *Wholesale Competition in Regions with Organized Electric Markets*, 73 FR 12,576 (Mar. 7, 2008), FERC Stats. & Regs. ¶ 32,682 at P 95 (2008) (Competition NOPR). The technical

conference will be held on May 21, 2008, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (EST), in the Commission Meeting Room at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426. The conference will be open for the public to attend and advance registration is not required. Members of the Commission may attend the conference.

The agenda for this conference is attached. If any changes occur, the revised agenda will be posted on the calendar page for this event on the Commission’s Web site, <http://www.ferc.gov>, prior to the event.

A free webcast of this event is available through <http://www.ferc.gov>. Anyone with internet access who desires to view this event can do so by navigating to the Calendar of Events at <http://www.ferc.gov> and locating this event in the Calendar. The event will contain a link to its webcast. The Capitol Connection provides technical support for the free webcasts. It also offers access to this event via television in the Washington, DC area and via phone-bridge for a fee. If you have any questions, visit <http://www.CapitolConnection.org> or contact Danelle Perkowski or David Reininger at (703) 993-3100.

Transcripts of the conference will be available immediately for a fee from Ace Reporting Company (202-347-3700 or 1-800-336-6646). They will be available for free on the Commission’s eLibrary system and on the Calendar of Events approximately one week after the conference.

Commission conferences are accessible under section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. For accessibility accommodations, please send an e-mail to [accessibility@ferc.gov](mailto:accessibility@ferc.gov) or call toll free 1-866-208-3372 (voice) or 202-208-1659 (TTY), or send a FAX to 202-208-2106 with the required accommodations.

For more information about this conference, please contact:

Ryan Irwin, Office of Energy Market Regulation, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, (202) 502-6454, [Ryan.Irwin@ferc.gov](mailto:Ryan.Irwin@ferc.gov).

Elizabeth Arnold, Office of the General Counsel—Energy Markets, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC

20426, (202) 502-8818,  
Elizabeth.Arnold@ferc.gov.

**Kimberly D. Bose,**  
Secretary.

### **Demand Response in Organized Electric Markets Technical Conference**

May 21, 2008

#### *Agenda*

9 a.m. Welcoming Remarks

9:20 Presentation by the Honorable  
Marsha Smith

Commissioner, Idaho Public Utilities  
Commission and President,  
National Association of Regulatory  
Utility Commissioners (NARUC), on  
behalf of NARUC.

9:45 Panel 1—Value of and  
Appropriate Compensation for  
Demand Response in Organized  
Electric Markets

This panel explores the value of  
demand response in organized  
electric markets and appropriate  
compensation for demand response  
under currently approved tariffs. In  
particular, this panel addresses the  
issue of ensuring that demand  
response resources are  
appropriately compensated in a  
manner that is comparable to other  
resources. The panel will examine  
whether demand response  
resources are appropriately valued  
for the benefit that they bring.

- Eric Woychik, Vice President,  
Regulatory Affairs, Comverge, Inc.
- Daniel Violette, Principal, Summit  
Blue Consulting.
- James Eber, Director—Demand  
Response and Dynamic Pricing,  
Commonwealth Edison Company.
- Lawrence Stalica, Vice President,  
Linde Energy Services, Inc.
- David Brewster, President,  
EnerNOC, Inc.
- Robert Borlick, Energy Consultant,  
Borlick Associates.
- David LaPlante, Vice President,  
Wholesale Markets Strategy, ISO  
New England Inc.
- Paul Peterson, Senior Associate,  
Synapse Energy Economics, Inc.

11:45 Lunch

1:15 Panel 2—Demand Response in  
Organized Markets—Barriers to  
Comparable Treatment and  
Solutions to Eliminate Potential  
Barriers: ISO New England, NYISO  
and PJM

This session addresses barriers to  
comparable treatment for demand  
response in the organized markets  
in ISO New England Inc., New York  
Independent System Operator, Inc.  
(NYISO) and PJM Interconnection,  
L.L.C. (PJM) and explores specific

solutions for dealing with these  
barriers. Panelists are encouraged to  
address barriers to comparable  
treatment for demand response  
beyond those already identified in  
the Competition NOPR.

- The Honorable Anne George,  
Commissioner, Connecticut  
Department of Public Utility  
Control; Chair, NARUC Committee  
on Electricity and Co-Chair of  
NARUC-FERC Demand Response  
Collaborative.
- Andrew Ott, Senior Vice  
President—Markets, PJM  
Interconnection, L.L.C.
- Henry Yoshimura, Manager,  
Demand Response, ISO New  
England Inc.
- Paul Tyno, Executive Vice  
President of Program Development,  
Energy Curtailment Specialists, Inc.
- Edward Tatum, Jr., Vice President,  
RTO & Regulatory Affairs, Old  
Dominion Electric Cooperative.
- Timothy Roughan, Director of  
Distributed Resources, National  
Grid USA.
- Sandra Levine, Senior Attorney,  
Conservation Law Foundation.

2:45 Break

3 p.m. Panel 3—Demand Response in  
Organized Markets—Barriers to  
Comparable Treatment and  
Solutions to Eliminate Potential  
Barriers: CAISO, Midwest ISO, and  
SPP

This session addresses barriers to  
comparable treatment for demand  
response in the organized markets  
in California Independent System  
Operator Corporation (CAISO),  
Midwest Independent Transmission  
System Operator, Inc. (Midwest  
ISO), and Southwest Power Pool,  
Inc. (SPP) and explores specific  
solutions for dealing with these  
barriers. Panelists are encouraged to  
address barriers to comparable  
treatment for demand response  
beyond those already identified in  
the Competition NOPR.

- Dennis Derricks, Director, Electric  
Regulatory Policy, Integrys Energy  
Group Inc.
- DeWayne Todd, Power Manager,  
Alcoa.
- Michael Robinson, Senior Manager  
of Market Design, Midwest  
Independent Transmission System  
Operator, Inc.
- Jason Salmi Klotz, Senior Analyst,  
Energy Division, California Public  
Utilities Commission.
- Joyce Reives, Director, DPL Energy  
Resources Inc.
- H. Walter Johnson, Principal,  
Technology Strategies, California  
Independent System Operator

Corporation.

- J. Craig Baker, Senior Vice  
President, Regulatory Services,  
American Electric Power.

4:30 Concluding Remarks

[FR Doc. E8-11314 Filed 5-20-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

## **DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

### **Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

#### **18 CFR Part 385**

[Docket No. RM08-8-000]

#### **Ex Parte Contacts and Separation of Functions**

Issued May 15, 2008.

**AGENCY:** Federal Energy Regulatory  
Commission, DOE.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed rulemaking.

**SUMMARY:** The Commission is proposing  
to revise its regulations to clarify its  
rules governing ex parte contacts and  
separation of functions as they apply to  
proceedings arising out of investigations  
initiated under Part 1b of the  
Commission's regulations. This  
proposal is intended to provide clearer  
guidance to both Commission litigation  
staff and persons outside the  
Commission in determining whether  
they may properly contact decisional  
employees once the Commission has  
established further proceedings on  
matters that had been investigated  
under Part 1b. The Commission also is  
proposing to clarify its regulations  
governing intervention to specify that  
intervention is not permitted as a matter  
of right in proceedings arising from Part  
1b investigations.

**DATES:** Comments are due July 21, 2008.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments,  
identified by docket number by any of  
the following methods:

- *Agency Web Site:* <http://ferc.gov>.

Documents created electronically using  
word processing software should be  
filed in native applications or print-to-  
PDF format and not in a scanned format.

- *Mail/Hand Delivery:* Commenters  
unable to file comments electronically  
must mail or hand deliver an original  
and 14 copies of their comments to:  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission,  
Secretary of the Commission, 888 First  
Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426.

*Instructions:* For detailed instructions  
on submitting comments and additional  
information on the rulemaking process,  
see the Comment Procedures Section of  
this document.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**  
Wilbur Miller, 888 First Street, NE.,