

toughness of RPV materials at that time. Since 1974, additional knowledge has been gained about RPV materials, which demonstrates that the lower bound on fracture toughness provided by the  $K_{IA}$  curve greatly exceeds the margin of safety required, and that the  $K_{IC}$  curve is sufficiently conservative to protect the public health and safety from potential RPV failure. Application of ASME Code Case N-641 will provide results that are sufficiently conservative to ensure the integrity of the RCPB, while providing P/T curves and low temperature overpressure protection system setpoints that are not overly restrictive. Implementation of the proposed P/T curves and low temperature overpressure protection system setpoints, as allowed by ASME Code Case N-641, does not significantly reduce the margin of safety.

In the associated exemption, the NRC staff has determined that, pursuant to 10 CFR part 50, Section 50.12(a)(2)(ii), the underlying purpose of the regulation will continue to be served by the implementation of ASME Code Case N-641.

#### *Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action*

The NRC has completed its evaluation of the proposed action and concludes that there are no significant environmental impacts associated with the use of the alternative analysis method to support the revision of the RCS P/T limits.

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.

With 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 resources not previously considered in NUREG-0063, “Final Environmental Statement Related to the Operation of William B. McGuire Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2,” April 1976 and the Addendum to NUREG-0063 issued in January 1981.

#### *Agencies and Persons Consulted*

In accordance with its stated policy, on May 19, 2003, the staff consulted with the North Carolina State official, Mr. Johnny James of the Division of Environmental Health, Radiation Protection Section, North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources, regarding the environmental impact of the proposed amendments. 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 December 12, 2002, as supplemented by letters dated March 27 and April 23, 2003. Documents may be examined, and/or copied for a fee, at the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR), located at One White Flint North, Public File Area O1 F21, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland. Publicly available records will be accessible electronically from the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Public Electronic Reading Room on the Internet at the NRC Web site, <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. Persons who do not have access to ADAMS or who encounter problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS should contact the NRC PDR Reference staff by telephone at 1-800-397-4209 or 301-415-4737, or by e-mail to [pdr@nrc.gov](mailto:pdr@nrc.gov).

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 21st day of May 2003.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**John A. Nakoski,**

*Chief, Section 1, Project Directorate II, Division of Licensing Project Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*

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**BILLING CODE 7590-01-P**

## **NUCLEAR ENERGY COMMISSION**

### **Sunshine Act Notice**

#### **Nuclear Regulatory Commission**

**DATES:** Weeks of May 26, June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 2003.

**PLACE:** Commissioners' Conference Room, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

**STATUS:** Public and closed.

#### **MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:**

*Week of May 26, 2003*

Wednesday, May 28, 2003

9:30 a.m. Meeting with Advisory Committee on the Medical Uses of Isotopes (ACMUI) (Public Meeting) (Contact: Angela Williamson, 301-415-5030).

This meeting will be webcast live at the Web address—<http://www.nrc.gov>.

2:45 p.m. Discussion of Management Issues (Closed—Ex. 2).

Thursday, May 29, 2003

9:30 a.m. Briefing on Status of Revisions to the Regulatory Framework for Steam Generator Tube Integrity (Public Meeting) (Contact: Louise Lund, 301-415-3248).

This meeting will be webcast live at the Web address—<http://www.nrc.gov>.

2 p.m. Briefing on Equal Employment Opportunity Program (Public Meeting) (Contact: Corenthis Kelley, 301-415-7380).

*Week of June 2, 2003—Tentative*

Friday, June 6, 2003

10 a.m. Discussion of Security Issues (Closed—Ex. 1).

*Week of June 9, 2003—Tentative*

Wednesday, June 11, 2003

10:30 a.m. All Employees (Public Meeting).

1:30 p.m. All Employees (Public Meeting).

*Week of June 16, 2003—Tentative*

There are no meetings scheduled for the Week of June 16, 2003.

*Week of June 23, 2003—Tentative*

There are no meetings scheduled for the Week of June 23, 2003.