

physicist to be physically present throughout all patient treatments with the GSR unit. This requirement became effective on October 24, 2002.

Research Medical Center has requested the exemption to allow a neurosurgeon to replace an authorized user if the following criteria is met: the neurosurgeon has received at least one full week of training at a formal training course for GSRs, including operation and emergency response; the neurosurgeon is working under the authorized user's supervision, and the neurosurgeon will be physically present in place of the authorized user once the treatment has been initiated. During patient treatment with the GSR unit, the authorized user will be immediately available and the substitution will not average more than 50% of the time. The authorized medical physicist will be present throughout all patient treatments.

Need for the Proposed Action

The exemption is needed so that Research Medical Center can continue to provide optimum medical treatment to its patients. The licensee indicates that without the exemption to 10 CFR 35.516(f)(3), GSR procedures would have to be periodically interrupted whenever it would be necessary to call the authorized user to attend to other responsibilities in the Radiation Oncology Department, which would not be conducive to timely completion of the procedure. The licensee states further that neurosurgeons are in large part responsible for the care of patients undergoing GSR, have completed the same course in GSR as the authorized users and are fully capable of handling any medical emergency, and are present during at least part of the treatment, and that the Radiation Oncology Department is separated from the GSR by a short enough distance such that an authorized user could respond quickly if necessary.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

The GSR sources are sealed sources and no material will be released into the environment. All the sources are contained within the unit, as verified by periodic spot checks performed by the licensee. The proposed action does not increase public radiation exposure. There will be no impact on the environment as a result of the proposed action.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action

As required by section 102(2)(E) of NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4322(2)(E)), possible alternatives to the final action have been considered. The alternatives are: (1) To

deny the exemption request or (2) to require the licensee to provide another alternative method as a basis for granting the exemption. The alternative options would not produce a gain in protecting the human environment, and would negatively impact the licensee implementation of medical care to patients.

Alternative Use of Resources

No alternative use of resources was considered due to the reasons stated above.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

This proposed action was discussed with the State of Missouri.

Identification of Source Used

Letter from Research Medical Center, to U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region III, dated September 20, 2002.

Finding of No Significant Impact

Based on the above environmental assessment, the Commission has concluded that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, the NRC has determined that a finding of no significant impact is appropriate and preparation of an environmental impact statement is not warranted.

The licensee's letter is available for inspection, and/or copying for a fee, in the Region III Public Document Room, 801 Warrensville Road, Lisle, IL 60532. The document is available electronically for public inspection from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), accession number ML030220477. ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

Dated in Rockville, Maryland, this 22nd day of January, 2003.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Frederick Brown,

Section Chief, Material Safety and Inspection Branch, Division of Industrial and Medical Nuclear Safety, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.

[FR Doc. 03-1860 Filed 1-27-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

DATE: Weeks of January 27, February 3, 10, 17, 24, March 3, 2003.

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

STATUS: Public and closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

Week of January 27, 2003

There are no meetings scheduled for the Week of January 27, 2003.

Week of February 3, 2003—Tentative

Tuesday, February 4, 2003

2 p.m.—Briefing on Lessons Learned: Davis-Besse Reactor Vessel Head (RVH) Degradation (Public Meeting) (Contact: Stacey Rosenberg, 301-415-1733)

This meeting will be webcast live at the Web address—www.nrc.gov

Wednesday, February 5, 2003

1 p.m.—Discussion of Governmental Issues (Closed—Ex. 1 & 9)

Week of February 10, 2003—Tentative

Monday, February 20, 2003

10 a.m.—Briefing on Status of Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) Programs, Performance, and Plans (Public Meeting) (Contract: Michael Case, 301-415-1275)

The meeting will be webcast live at the Web address—www.nrc.gov

Tuesday, February 11, 2003

10 a.m.—Briefing on Status of Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO) Programs, Performance, and Plans (Public meeting) (Contact: Patrice Williams-Johnson, 301-415-5732)

This meeting will be webcast live at the Web address—www.nrc.gov.

Week of February 17, 2003—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the Week of February 17, 2003.

Week of February 24, 2003—Tentative

Monday, February 24, 2003

2 p.m.—Meeting with National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) (Public Meeting)

This meeting will be webcast live at the Web address—www.nrc.gov

Week of March 3, 2003

Monday, March 3, 2003

10 a.m.—Briefing on Status of Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS) Programs—Waste Safety (Public Meeting) (Contact: Claudia Seelig, 301-415-7243)

This meeting will be webcast live at the Web address—www.nrc.gov

*The schedule for Commission meetings is subject to change on short