

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Copies of the information collection requests, with applicable supporting documentation, may be obtained by calling the NCUA Clearance Officer, James L. Baylen, (703) 518-6411.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Proposal for the following collection of information:

*OMB Number:* 3133-0155.

*Form Numbers:* CLF-8700 CLF-8705 CLF-8706 NCUA-7005.

*Type of Review:* Reinstatement, with change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired.

*Title:* Central Liquidity Facility group/agent membership and loan activity forms.

*Description:* Forms used in conjunction with agent member's request for facility advances, to request agent membership in the Central Liquidity Facility and/or to establish terms of relationship between credit unions, agent members and agent group representatives.

*Respondents:* Credit unions.

*Estimated No. of Respondents/Recordkeepers:* 248.

*Estimated Burden Hours Per Response:* 1.9 hours.

*Frequency of Response:* Reporting and other.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 128.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost:* none.

By the National Credit Union Administration Board on September 24, 2003.

**Becky Baker,**

*Secretary of the Board.*

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**BILLING CODE 7535-01-P**

The facility consists of two pressurized-water reactors located in Ogle County in Illinois.

**2.0 Request/Action**

Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR), part 50, requires, among other items, that each boiling or pressurized light-water nuclear power reactor fueled with oxide pellets within cylindrical zircaloy or ZIRLO cladding, must, as provided in paragraphs (b) through (d) of 10 CFR 50.44, include means for control of hydrogen gas that may be generated, following a postulated loss-of-coolant accident (LOCA) by:

- (1) Metal-water reaction involving the fuel cladding and the reactor coolant.
- (2) Radiolytic decomposition of the reactor coolant, and
- (3) Corrosion of metals.

Section 50.46 of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations, "Acceptance Criteria for Emergency Core Cooling Systems for Light-Water Nuclear Power Reactors," requires, among other items, that each boiling or pressurized light-water nuclear power reactor fueled with uranium oxide pellets within cylindrical zircaloy or ZIRLO cladding, must be provided with an emergency core cooling system (ECCS) that must be designed so that its calculated cooling performance following postulated LOCAs conforms to the criteria set forth in paragraph (b) of 10 CFR 50.46. Section 50.46 also requires that ECCS cooling performance must be calculated in accordance with an acceptable evaluation model and must be calculated for a number of postulated LOCAs of different sizes, locations, and other properties sufficient to provide assurance that the most severe postulated LOCAs are calculated. Section 50.46 provides further that an acceptable evaluation model may be developed in conformance with the features of 10 CFR part 50, appendix K models.

Appendix K to part 50 of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations, "ECCS Evaluation Models," requires, among other items, that the rate of energy release, hydrogen generation, and cladding oxidation from the metal/water reaction shall be calculated using the Baker-Just equation.

In summary, 10 CFR 50.44, 10 CFR 50.46, and 10 CFR part 50, appendix K, make no provisions for use of fuel rods clad in a material other than Zircaloy or ZIRLO. The licensee has requested the use of a limited number of "lower tin" ZIRLO clad replacement fuel rods in one lead test assembly (LTA) with a tin composition that is less than the licensing basis for ZIRLO tin

composition, as defined in Westinghouse design specifications.

**3.0 Discussion**

Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.12, the Commission may, upon application by any interested person or upon its own initiative, grant an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR part 50 only if (1) the exemption is authorized by law, will not present an undue risk to public health or safety, and is consistent with the common defense and security; and (2) special circumstances are present. Special circumstances are present if application of the regulation is not necessary to achieve the underlying purpose of the rule.

The licensee here requests an exemption in order to use newly developed low tin ZIRLO that is an improved version of the ZIRLO material, and is not described in WCAP-12610-P-A, "VANTAGE+ Fuel Assembly Reference Core Report," which describes the use of ZIRLO clad fuel. The staff examined the licensee's rationale to support the exemption request(s) and, for the reasons set forth below, concludes that the licensee would meet the underlying purpose of 10 CFR 50.44, 50.46 and part 50, appendix K.

The underlying purpose of 10 CFR 50.44 is to ensure that means are provided for the control of hydrogen gas that may be generated following a LOCA. The licensee has provided means for controlling hydrogen gas and has previously considered the potential for hydrogen gas generation stemming from a metal-water reaction. The LTA rods containing the lower tin ZIRLO (LT-2) cladding are similar in chemical composition to zircaloy cladding. Accordingly, previous calculations of hydrogen production resulting from a metal-water reaction will not be significantly changed. As such, application of 10 CFR 50.44 is not necessary for the licensee to achieve its underlying purpose in these circumstances.

The underlying purpose of 10 CFR 50.46, and 10 CFR part 50, appendix K, is to establish requirements for the calculation of ECCS performance. The ECCS performance requirements include peak cladding temperature, maximum cladding oxidation, hydrogen generation, and coolable geometry. With respect to 10 CFR 50.46, the licensee has previously performed a LOCA safety analysis using the approved Westinghouse methodology including the Byron Station ECCS Model Safety Analysis of Record for LTAs of lower tin ZIRLO (LT-1) cladding. The unique features of the LTAs were evaluated for

**NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

[Docket Nos. STN 50-454 and STN 50-455]

**Exelon Generation Company, LLC, Byron Station, Units 1 and 2; Exemption****1.0 Background**

The Exelon Generation Company, LLC (the licensee) is the holder of Facility Operating License Nos. NPF-37 and NPF-66 which authorizes operation of the Byron Station, Units 1 and 2. The licenses provide, among other things, that the facility is subject to all rules, regulations, and orders of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC, the Commission) now or hereafter in effect.