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Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 14th day of February, 2003.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Notice of Opportunity To Comment on Model Safety Evaluation on Technical Specification Improvement Regarding Scram Discharge Volume Vent and Drain Valves Actions for Boiling Water Reactors Using the Consolidated Line Item Improvement Process

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Request for comment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the staff of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has prepared a model safety evaluation (SE) relating to a change in the technical specification (TS) required actions for inoperable vent and drain valves for the scram discharge volume (S.V.) for boiling water reactors (BWRs). This proposed change was proposed for incorporation into the standard technical specifications (STS) by the BWR Owners Group (BWROG) participants in the Technical Specification Task Force (TSTF) and is designated TSTF-404, Revision 0. The proposed change to TS would allow isolation of one or more S.V. vent or drain lines within 7 days if a single vent or drain valve in the line is determined to be inoperable. The TS for most BWRs do not currently include the option of isolating a vent or drain line but instead require restoring a single inoperable S.V. vent or drain valve to operable status within 7 days. Requirements are maintained to isolate a line within 8 hours if both vent or drain valves in a line are inoperable. This notice also includes a model no significant hazards

consideration (NSHC) determination relating to this matter.

The purpose of these models is to permit the NRC to efficiently process proposed amendments to incorporate this change into plant-specific TS for BWRs. Licensees of nuclear power reactors to which the models apply could request amendments conforming to the models. In such a request, a licensee should confirm the applicability of the SE and NSHC-determination to its reactor. The NRC staff is requesting comments on the model SE and model NSHC determination before announcing their availability for referencing in license amendment applications.

DATES: The comment period expires March 26, 2003. Comments received after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but the Commission is able to ensure consideration only for comments received on or before this date.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted either electronically or via U.S. mail.

Submit written comments to: Chief, Rules and Directives Branch, Division of Administrative Services, Office of Administration, Mail Stop: T-6 D59, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

Hand deliver comments to: 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland, between 7:45 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. on Federal workdays.

Copies of comments received may be examined at the NRC's Public Document Room, One White Flint North, Public File Area O1 F21, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland.

Comments may be submitted by electronic mail to CLIP@nrc.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William Reckley, Mail Stop: O-7D1, Division of Licensing Project Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, telephone (301) 415-1323.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Regulatory Issue Summary 2000-06, "Consolidated Line Item Improvement

Process for Adopting Standard Technical Specifications Changes for Power Reactors," was issued on March 20, 2000. The Consolidated Line Item Improvement Process (CLIP) is intended to improve the efficiency and transparency of NRC licensing processes. This is accomplished by processing proposed changes to the STS in a manner that supports subsequent license amendment applications. The CLIP includes an opportunity for the public to comment on proposed changes to the STS following a preliminary assessment by the NRC staff and finding that the change will likely be offered for adoption by licensees. This notice is soliciting comment on a proposed change to the STS that revises requirements for the S.V. vent and drain valves for BWRs. The CLIP directs the NRC staff to evaluate any comments received for a proposed change to the STS and to either reconsider the change or proceed with announcing the availability of the change for proposed adoption by licensees. Those licensees opting to apply for the subject change to TSs are responsible for reviewing the staff's evaluation, referencing the applicable technical justifications, and providing any necessary plant-specific information. Each amendment application made in response to the notice of availability would be processed and noticed in accordance with applicable rules and NRC procedures.

This notice involves changes to required actions for inoperable S.V. vent and drain valves for BWRs. This proposed change was proposed for incorporation into the STS by the BWROG as TSTF-404, Revision 0. The changes, provided in terms of Limiting Condition for Operation (LCO) 3.1.8 in the STS for BWRs are provided below:

Current Requirements

LCO 3.1.8 Each S.V. Vent and Drain Valve Shall be Operable

Applicability: Modes 1 and 2.

Actions:

Note: Separate Condition Entry is allowed for each S.V. vent and drain line.

Condition	Required action	Completion time
A. One or more S.V. vent or drain lines with one valve inoperable.	A.1 Restore Valve to Operable status	7 days.
B. One or more S.V. vent or drain lines with both valves inoperable.	B.1 Isolate the associated line <i>Note:</i> An isolated line may be unisolated under administrative control to allow draining and venting of the S.V.	8 hours.
C. Required Action and associated Completion Time not met ...	C.1 Be in Mode 3	12 hours.