

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION**Special Emphasis Panel in Civil and Mechanical Systems; Notice of Meeting**

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, as amended), the National Science Foundation announces the following meeting:

Name: Special Emphasis Panel in Civil and Mechanical Systems (1205).

Date & Time: November 5 and 6, 1998; 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Place: NSF, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Rooms 530 and 580, Arlington, Virginia 22230.

Contact Person: Dr. Jorn Larsen-Basse, Control, Materials and Mechanics Cluster, Division of Civil and Mechanical Systems, Room 545, NSF, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230. 703/306-1361, x5073.

Purpose of Meeting: To provide advice and recommendations concerning proposals submitted to NSF for financial support.

Agenda: To review and evaluate research proposals as part of the selection process for awards.

Reason for Closing: The proposals being reviewed include information of a proprietary or confidential nature, including technical information; financial data, such as salaries; and personal information concerning individuals associated with the proposals. These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c) (4) and (6) of the Government Sunshine Act.

Dated: October 13, 1998.

M. Rebecca Winkler,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 98-27843 Filed 10-15-98; 8:45 am]

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Agenda: To review and evaluate the HAIPER Systems Integrator proposal as part of the selection process for an award.

Reason for Closing: The proposal being reviewed includes information of a proprietary or confidential nature, including technical information; financial data; such as salaries, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the proposal. These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c) (4) and (6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act.

Dated: October 13, 1998.

M. Rebecca Winkler,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 98-27844 Filed 10-15-98; 8:45 am]

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NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION**Special Emphasis Panel in Materials Research; Notice of Meeting**

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, as amended), the National Science Foundation announces the following meeting:

Name: Special Emphasis Panel in Materials Research (1203)

Dates & Times: November 4-5, 1998; 8:00 am-5:00 pm

Place: University of Oregon, Eugene, OR; Room TBA

Type of Meeting: Closed.

Contact Person: Dr. H. Hollis Wickman, Program Director, Division of Materials Research, Room 1065.19, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230. Telephone: (703) 306-1816.

Purpose of Meeting: To provide advice and recommendations concerning progress of an NSF funded project.

Agenda: To review operations at the University of Oregon Cryogenic Helium Turbulence Center.

Reason for Closing: The project being reviewed involves information of a proprietary or confidential nature, including technical information; financial data, such as salaries; and personal information concerning individuals associated with the project. These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c), (4) and (6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act.

Dated: October 13, 1998.

M. Rebecca Winkler,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 98-27846 Filed 10-15-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION**Special Emphasis Panel in Geosciences; Notice of Meeting**

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, as amended), the National Science Foundation announces the following meeting:

Name: Special Emphasis Panel in Geosciences (1756).

Date and Time: November 4-5, 1998; 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Place: Room 730; National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230.

Type of Meeting: Closed.

Contact Person: Mr. Kenneth L. Van Sickle, Facility Manager, UCAR and Lower Atmosphere Facilities Oversight Section, Division of Atmospheric Sciences, Room 775, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230, Telephone: (703) 306-1526.

Purpose of Meeting: To provide advice and recommendations concerning a proposal submitted to NSF for financial support.

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-003]

Consolidated Edison Company; Indian Point Nuclear Generating Station Unit 1; Notice of Cancellation of Public Meeting

The public meeting that was to be held at Village Hall, 236 Tate Avenue, Buchanan, New York, on October 21, 1998, to discuss the decommissioning of the Indian Point Nuclear Generating Station, Unit 1 (IP-1) has been cancelled. The meeting will be rescheduled to be held at a later date. The Notice of Public Meeting to be held was published in the **Federal Register** on October 5, 1998 (63 FR 53465).

The purpose of the meeting was to describe the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's regulatory process for the decommissioning of the facility. Consolidated Edison Company, the owner of IP-1, was planning to describe their plans and schedule for decommissioning the reactor facility. A public meeting is required by Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Section 50.82(a)(4).

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 9th day of October 1998.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Seymour H. Weiss,

Director, Non-Power Reactors and Decommissioning Project Directorate, Division of Reactor Program Management, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Regulation.

[FR Doc. 98-27810 Filed 10-15-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50-250 and 50-251]

In the Matter of Florida Power and Light Company; (Turkey Point Units 3 and 4); Exemption

I

Florida Power and Light Company (the licensee) is the holder of Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-31 and DPR-41, which authorize operation of Turkey Point Units 3 and 4 (the facility) at a steady-state reactor power level not in excess of 2300 megawatts thermal. The facility is a pressurized-water reactor located at the licensee's site in Dade County, Florida. The licenses require among other things that the facility comply with all rules, regulations, and orders of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission or NRC) now or hereafter in effect.

II

In exemptions dated March 27, 1984, and August 12, 1987, concerning the requirements of Section III.G, Appendix R to 10 CFR Part 50, the staff approved the use of 1-hour-rated fire barriers in lieu of 3-hour barriers in certain outdoor areas at Turkey Point Units 3 and 4. In addition, the staff found that, for certain outdoor areas not protected by automatic fire detection and suppression systems, separation of cables and equipment and associated non-safety-related circuits of redundant trains by a horizontal distance of 20 feet free of intervening combustibles provided an acceptable level of fire safety.

On the basis of the results of the industry's Thermo-Lag fire endurance testing program, the licensee concluded that the outdoor Thermo-Lag fire barrier designs cannot achieve a 1-hour fire-resistive rating but can achieve a 30-minute fire-resistive rating when exposed to a test fire that follows the American Society for Testing and Materials E-119 standard time-temperature curve. Because of these test results, the licensee in a letter dated June 15, 1994, requested an exemption to use 30-minute fire barriers for outdoor applications in lieu of the 1-hour fire barriers previously approved; however, the exemption request was withdrawn by letter dated June 28, 1996.

In a letter dated December 12, 1996, as supplemented on July 31, October 31, and December 17, 1997, the licensee requested an exemption from the requirements pertaining to the 3-hour fire barriers required by Section III.G.2.a, Appendix R to 10 CFR Part 50, for the outdoor areas, excluding the turbine building area. The licensee requested that the NRC approve the use of 25-minute raceway fire barriers for these outdoor applications in lieu of the 1-hour fire barriers that were previously approved (refer to safety evaluations dated March 27, 1984, and August 12, 1987). This request was based on the following: (1) the fire loading and potential fire severities are low; (2) there are minimal ignition sources; (3) transient ignition sources and combustibles are controlled in these zones; and (4) manual fire fighting equipment is readily accessible to these zones.

On February 24, 1998, the staff issued a partial exemption for fire zones 47, 54, 113, 114, 115, 116, 118, 119, 120, and 143, and denied the request for fire zone 106R. In addition, the licensee was informed that the staff will be evaluating the remaining fire zones

separately. Specifically, the remaining fire zones are 79-partial, 81, 84-partial, 86, 88-partial, 89-partial, and 131. Subsequently, by letters dated June 2 and August 4, 1998, the licensee submitted additional information in support of the exemption request for the remaining fire zones.

III

The underlying purpose of Section III.G.2.a, Appendix R to 10 CFR Part 50, is to provide reasonable assurance that one safe shutdown train and associated circuits used to achieve and maintain safe shutdown are free of fire damage.

On the basis of the staff's supporting safety evaluation of the licensee's submittals, the staff concludes that the exemption from the requirements of Section III.G.2.a of Appendix R, for fire zones 79-partial, 81, 84-partial, 86, 88-partial, and 89-partial, as requested by the licensee, provides an adequate level of fire safety, and presents no undue risk to public health and safety. In addition, the staff concludes the underlying purpose of the rule is achieved. Fire zone 131 will be addressed separately.

IV

Accordingly, the Commission has determined that, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.12(a), the exemption is authorized by law, will not present an undue risk to public health and safety, and is consistent with the common defense and security. In addition, the Commission has determined that special circumstances are present in that application of the Regulation is not necessary to achieve the underlying purpose of the rule. Therefore, the Commission hereby grants Florida Power and Light Company an exemption from the requirements of Section III.G.2.a of Appendix R to 10 CFR Part 50, as requested in its above-referenced submittals, for fire zones 79-partial, 81, 84-partial, 86, 88-partial, and 89-partial.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.32, the Commission has determined that granting this exemption for fire zones 79-partial, 81, 84-partial, 86, 88-partial, and 89-partial, will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment (63 FR 52310).

This exemption is effective upon issuance.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 8th day of October 1998.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Samuel J. Collins,

Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 98-27808 Filed 10-15-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-259, 50-260 and 50-296]

Tennessee Valley Authority; Notice of Withdrawal of Application for Amendment to Facility Operating License

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC, the Commission) has granted a request by the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA or the licensee) to withdraw its June 16, 1995, application for an amendment to Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-33, DPR-52 and DPR-68 issued to the licensee for operation of the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant (BFN), Units 1, 2 and 3, respectively, located in Limestone County, Alabama. Notice of consideration of issuance of this amendment was published in the **Federal Register** on August 16, 1995 (60 FR 42610).

The purpose of the licensee's amendment request was to allow the Traveling In-core Probe (TIP) system to be considered operable with less than five TIP machines operable. This change would allow the data normally supplied by the inoperable TIP unit to be supplied by either substituting data from traverses of symmetric TIP locations or using normalized TIP readings calculated by the on-line core monitoring system.

On July 14, 1998, NRC issued Amendment Nos. 234, 253, and 212 to Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-33, DPR-52, and DPR-69 for BFN Units 1, 2, and 3 respectively, which approved conversion of CTS to Improved Technical Specifications (ITS). With the implementation of the ITS, there are no explicit requirements for TIP operability. As a result, by letter dated September 18, 1998, TVA informed the NRC staff that it no longer requires staff action on its June 16, 1995 application for TIP operability. Thus the licensee's June 16, 1995 application is considered withdrawn by the licensee.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendments dated June 16, 1995, the licensee's September 18, 1998 letter and the staff's letter dated October 7, 1998, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building,